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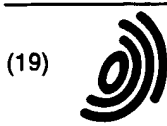
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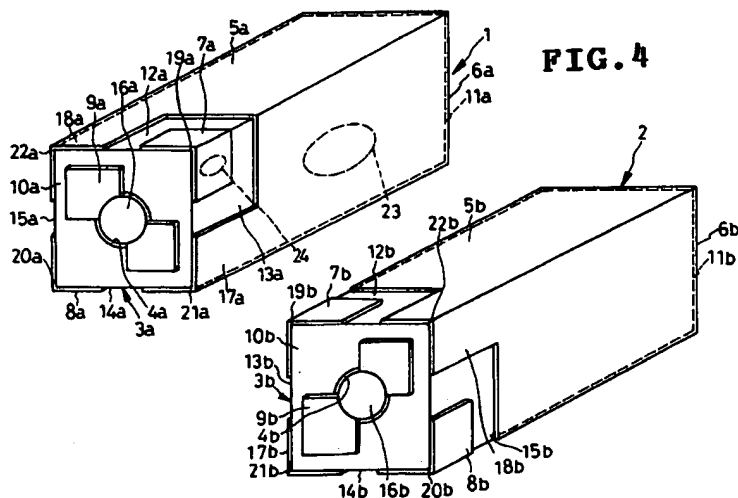
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(54) Wave filter having two or more coaxial dielectric resonators in juxtaposition

(57) A radio frequency filter having at least two dielectric resonators (1,2) in juxtaposition, each resonator including a tubular dielectric body (3a,3b). Formed on the dielectric body (3a,3b) of each resonator are an inner (4a,4b) and an outer (5a,5b) conductors and various other conductors including a terminal conductor (8a,8b)

for connection of the filter to external circuitry. In order to assure positive isolation of the terminal conductors (20a,20b) of both resonators from each other, the outer conductors (5a,5b) are provided with extensions (17a, 17b) which intervene between the terminal conductors (8a,8b) for preventing them from being capacitively coupled together.



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Description

The present invention relates generally to wave filters, and deals more specifically with radio frequency filters of the kind comprising two or more coaxial, dielectric resonators in juxtaposition. The radio frequency filters according to the invention find typical applications in mobile or portable telephone sets, although no unnecessary limitations thereto are intended.

Bandpass or bandstop radio frequency filters have been known which typically take the form of a pair of juxtaposed coaxial dielectric resonators operating in transverse electromagnetic (TEM) mode, as disclosed for example in U.S. Pat. No. 5,578,975 to Kazama et al. Methods have also been known of capacitively coupling together the dielectric resonators. One such known method, according to Japanese Unexamined Pat. PUB. No. 7-176911, teaches to provide layers of electrically conductive material on the opposed surfaces of the resonators, thereby obtaining capacitances between the conductive layers and the inner conductors of the resonators, and to solder or otherwise join the conductive layers. These conductive layers are referred to as resonator coupling conductors.

The dielectric resonators have been further provided with additional conductor layers on their outer surfaces for use as terminals in connecting the filter to external circuits. These terminals should of course be electrically isolated from each other as much as possible. Difficulties have been encountered, however, in realizing a desired degree of isolation between the terminals because they have been capacitively coupled together in devices composed of juxtapositions of two or more dielectric resonators.

Additional problems left unsolved with dielectric resonator wave filters arise from the presentday demand for smaller and smaller devices. The outer conductor of each resonator is provided with extensions to one end of the dielectric body according to one known downsizing method, and, according to another such method, the inner conductor is joined directly to a conductive layer, or inner conductor extension, formed on one end of the dielectric body.

Such known downsizing methods are alike in aiming at lower resonance frequencies with each dielectric body maintained at the same length as before. This objective, known as the wavelength shortening effect, is obtained as the capacitance between the extensions of the outer conductor and the inner conductor, or between the extension of the inner conductor and the outer conductor, of each resonator is connected in parallel with the resonance circuit of each resonator proper, resulting in a decrease in resonance frequency. For example, the resonance frequency of a device having a pair of dielectric resonators may decrease from 1900 megahertz, in the case where no such downsizing measures are taken, to as low as 1000 megahertz when the noted capacitance additionally connected in parallel with the res-

onance circuit of each resonator is 20 picofarads.

Let us now consider a wave filter comprised of juxtaposed dielectric resonators having the inner conductor extensions, the terminal conductors, and the resonator coupling conductors. Capacitances between resonator coupling conductors and inner conductors and capacitances between terminal conductors and inner conductors change with the size of the inner conductor extensions. The aforesaid wavelength shortening effect is therefore not adjustable by the inner conductor extensions without affecting the capacitances in question.

The terminal conductors and the resonator coupling conductors have presented a further problem. These conductors have been required to be of not less than a certain size for providing the desired capacitances, running counter to the size reduction of the filters incorporating them.

A yet further problem with dielectric filters in general has been the spurious resonance at thrice the fundamental frequency or thereabouts. The spurious resonance has resulted in insufficient attenuation of that higher harmonic.

Embodiments of the present invention aim to improve isolation between the terminal conductors in wave filters having two or more dielectric resonators in juxtaposition.

Another aim is to make readily adjustable the wavelength shortening effect of wave filters of the kind defined, with little or no influence on capacitances between resonator coupling conductors and inner conductors or on capacitances between terminal conductors and inner conductors.

Yet another aim is to reduce the sizes of the terminal conductors and the resonator coupling conductors in wave filters of the kind defined.

A further aim is to overcome the spurious resonance that has heretofore occurred at about thrice the fundamental frequency in wave filters of the kind defined, and hence to make possible the attenuation of that harmonic frequency.

The invention is defined in the independent claim, appended hereto, to which reference should now be made.

Briefly, the invention concerns a dielectric wave filter having at least two dielectric resonators in juxtaposition. Each dielectric resonator comprises a dielectric body having a plurality of side surfaces between a pair of opposite end surfaces, and a resonance hole extending between the pair of end surfaces. An inner conductor covers an inner surface of the dielectric body whereas an outer conductor covers those parts of the side surfaces of the dielectric body which are contiguous to one of the end surfaces of the dielectric body. The outer conductors on both dielectric bodies are joined to each other both mechanically and electrically. A shorting conductor covers said one end surface of the dielectric body and so electrically interconnects the inner and the outer conductors. Also formed on each dielectric body are a res-

onator coupling conductor covering part of at least that side surface of each dielectric body which confronts the other dielectric body, and a terminal conductor covering part of the side surfaces of each dielectric body and disposed adjacent the other of the end surfaces thereof. The resonator coupling conductors on both dielectric bodies are joined to each other both mechanically and electrically. The terminal conductors on both dielectric bodies are disposed at least on those side surfaces of the dielectric bodies which face away from each other. The invention particularly features an outer conductor extension extending from the outer conductor on each dielectric body toward said other end surface thereof, the outer conductor extensions on both dielectric bodies being disposed at least on those side surfaces of the dielectric bodies which confront each other, thereby intervening between the terminal conductors on both dielectric bodies.

Thus the terminal conductors of the two dielectric resonators are better isolated from each other than heretofore by the outer conductor extensions intervening therebetween. Experiment has proved that little or no signal leakage occurs from the input to the output terminal conductors in filters constructed according to this invention.

The outer conductor extensions on the dielectric bodies serve the additional purpose of providing the wavelength shortening effect by virtue of capacitances between them and the inner conductors. The wavelength shortening effect makes it possible to provide smaller size filters.

Preferably, the inner conductor of each resonator is also provided with an extension. Disposed on said other end surface of each dielectric body, the inner conductor extensions function to make the wavelength shortening effect even more pronounced.

The outer conductor extensions may be so patterned as to provide greater inductances for attenuating the third harmonic of the fundamental frequency.

The invention may be carried into practice in various ways, but embodiments will now be described by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is an end elevation of a first preferred form of dielectric wave filter according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a top plan of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 3 is a longitudinal section through the **FIG. 1** filter, taken along the line A-A in **FIG. 1**;

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 5 is a left hand side elevation of the left hand resonator of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 6 is a bottom plan of the left hand resonator of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 7 is a left hand side elevation of the right hand resonator of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 8 is a bottom plan of the right hand resonator of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 9 is an end elevation of the left hand resonator of the **FIG. 1** filter, the view being explanatory of the arrangement of the inner conductor extension on the end surface of the dielectric body;

FIG. 10 is a sectional view showing the **FIG. 1** resonators as mounted on a circuit board, the resonators being shown sectioned along the line B-B in **FIG. 2**;

FIG. 11 is a top plan of the **FIG. 10** circuit board;

FIG. 12 is an equivalent circuit diagram of the **FIG. 1** filter;

FIG. 13 is a graph plotting the curve of the gain of the **FIG. 1** filter against the input frequency;

FIG. 14 is an end view of a dielectric resonator having a modified inner conductor extension according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 15 is an end view of a dielectric resonator having another modified inner conductor extension according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 16 is an end view of a dielectric resonator having still another modified inner conductor extension according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 17 is an end view of a dielectric resonator having a further modified inner conductor extension according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 18 is a top plan of another preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 19 is an end elevation of the **FIG. 18** filter;

FIG. 20 is an equivalent circuit diagram of the **FIG. 18** filter;

FIG. 21 is an end elevation of still another preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 22 is a section through one of the resonators of the **FIG. 21** filter, taken along the line C-C in **FIG. 21**;

FIG. 23 is an exploded perspective view of the **FIG. 21** filter;

FIG. 24 is an axial section through one of the dielectric resonators of the **FIG. 21** filter, the view showing a step in the fabrication of the filter;

FIG. 25 is a view similar to **FIG. 24** but showing another step in the fabrication of the **FIG. 21** filter;

FIG. 26 is a top plan of yet another preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 27 is an exploded perspective view of the **FIG. 26** filter;

FIG. 28 is a left hand side elevation of the left hand resonator of the **FIG. 26** filter;

FIG. 29 is a bottom plan of the left hand resonator of the **FIG. 26** filter;

FIG. 30 is a left hand side elevation of the right hand resonator of the **FIG. 26** filter;

FIG. 31 is a bottom plan of the right hand resonator

of the FIG. 26 filter;

FIG. 32 is an equivalent circuit diagram of the FIG. 26 filter;

FIG. 33 is a side elevation of a dielectric resonator having a modified outer conductor and a modified extension therefrom according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 34 is a side elevation of a dielectric resonator having another modified outer conductor and a modified extension therefrom according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 35 is a side elevation of a dielectric resonator having still another modified outer conductor extension according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 36 is a bottom plan of the FIG. 35 resonator;

FIG. 37 is a exploded perspective view of a further preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 38 is an exploded perspective view of a further preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 39 is an end elevation of a further preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 40 is a top plan of a further preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention;

FIG. 41 is a section through the FIG. 40 filter, taken along the line D-D in FIG. 40;

FIG. 42 is an exploded perspective view of the FIG. 40 filter;

FIG. 43 is a top plan of a still further preferred form of dielectric filter according to another embodiment of this invention; and

FIG. 44 is an exploded perspective view of the FIG. 43 filter.

The present invention will now be described more specifically in terms of its first preferable embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1-13. The representative filter is broadly comprised of two TEM mode, coaxial dielectric resonators 1 and 2 seen in FIGS. 1-4. The resonators 1 and 2 are alike in comprising dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, inner conductors 4a and 4b, outer conductors 5a and 5b, shorting conductors 6a and 6b, resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b, terminal conductors 8a and 8b, inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b, first outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b, and second outer conductor extensions 18a and 18b.

The dielectric bodies 3a and 3b are substantially tubular in shape, preferably square in cross section, each having a first end surface 10a or 10b, a second end surface 11a or 11b, a first side surface 12a or 12b, a second side surface 13a or 13b, a third side surface 14a or 14b, and a fourth side surface 15a or 15b. A resonance hole 16a or 16b extends longitudinally through each dielectric body 3a or 3b, between the first 10a or 10b and sec-

ond 11a or 11b end surfaces.

The inner conductors 4a and 4b of the resonators 1 and 2 line the walls bounding the resonance holes 16a and 16b in the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, whereas the outer conductors 5a and 5b cover the four side surfaces 12a and 12b, 13a and 13b, 14a and 14b, and 15a and 15b of the dielectric bodies. The shorting conductors 6a and 6b are formed on the second end surfaces 11a and 11b of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, interconnecting the inner 4a and 4b and outer 5a and 5b conductors.

The resonator coupling capacitors 7a and 7b, through which the two resonators 1 and 2 are coupled together, are formed on parts of the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and second 13a and 13b side surfaces. The terminal conductors 8a and 8b are formed on parts of the dielectric body third 14a and 14b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces. The outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b are formed on parts of the dielectric body second 13a and 13b and third 14a and 14b side surfaces. The outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b are formed on parts of the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces.

FIG. 1 best illustrates that the two resonators 1 and 2 are juxtaposed with the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b oriented toward each other. The resonators 1 and 2 are coupled together, both mechanically and electrically, by an electroconductive bonding agent such as solder joining those parts of the outer conductors 5a and 5b and resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b which overlie the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b. FIG. 4 indicates the electroconductive bonding agent by the dashed lines designated 23 and 24. The layers of the bonding agent are so thin, however, that they are not shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.

The geometry of the various conductors on the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b will now be explained in more detail. The inner conductors 4a and 4b, first of all, thoroughly cover the dielectric body surfaces defining the resonance holes 16a and 16b. The shorting conductors 6a and 6b also completely cover the dielectric body second end surfaces 11a and 11b.

The outer conductors 5a and 5b cover all but parts of all the dielectric body side surfaces 12a-15a and 12b-15b, the remaining parts, left exposed by the outer conductors 5a and 5b, being contiguous to the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b. The outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b extend from the outer conductors 5a and 5b onto mutually adjoining subparts of the noted remaining parts of the dielectric body second 13a and 13b and third 14a and 14b side surfaces, terminating at the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b. The outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b likewise extend from the outer conductors 5a and 5b onto mutually adjoining subparts of the noted remaining parts of the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces, terminating at the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b.

The resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b are

formed on subparts of the noted remaining parts of the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and second 13a and 13b side surfaces, lying contiguous to the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b and spaced from all of the outer conductors 5a and 5b and the first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions therefrom. It is to be noted that those parts of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b which overlie the dielectric body first side surfaces 12a and 12b occupy less than half the width (horizontal dimension as viewed in FIG. 1) of these dielectric body first side surfaces. Similarly, those parts of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b which overlie the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b occupy less than half the width (vertical dimension in FIG. 1) of these dielectric body second side surfaces.

The terminal conductors 8a and 8b are formed on subparts of the noted remaining parts of the dielectric body third 14a and 14b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces, lying contiguous to the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b and spaced from all of the outer conductors 5a and 5b and the first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions therefrom. Those parts of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b which overlie the dielectric body third side surfaces 14a and 14b occupy less than half the width (horizontal dimension in FIG. 1) of these dielectric body third side surfaces. The remaining parts of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b, overlying the dielectric body fourth side surfaces 15a and 15b, also occupy less than half the width (vertical dimension in FIG. 1) of these dielectric body fourth side surfaces.

Thus, those parts of the outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b which overlie the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b are in register, via the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, with those parts of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b which overlie the dielectric body fourth side surfaces 15a and 15b. So interposed between the two terminal conductors 8a and 8b, which are to function respectively as input and output terminals, the outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b serve to prevent the terminal conductors from being capacitively coupled together, thereby electrically isolating them from each other.

An inspection of FIGS. 1 and 4 in particular will reveal that the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b, as well as the outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions, are configured in axial symmetry about the axes of the resonance holes 16a and 16b. The two dielectric resonators 1 and 2 can therefore be of identical make; only, they are coupled together with one resonator angularly displaced 90 degrees about the resonator axis from the other.

Before studying the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b in detail, let us specify the four corners the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b as follows: the first corner 19a and 19b between the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and second 13a and 13b side surfaces, the second corner 20a and 20b between the dielectric body third 14a

and 14b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces, the third corner 21a and 21b between the dielectric body second 13a and 13b and third 14a and 14b side surfaces, and the fourth corner 22a and 22b between the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces.

The inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b may be thought of as being each composed of two separate parts of virtually square shape, extending from the inner conductor 4a and 4b toward, and terminating short of, the third 21a and 21b and fourth 22a and 22b corners of the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b. The arrangements of the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b are such that they are each of bilateral symmetry both about a first diagonal line between the first 19a and 19b and second 20a and 20b corners and about a second diagonal line between the third 21a and 21b and fourth 22a and 22b corners.

FIG. 9 shows the geometry of the various conductors on the dielectric body first end surface 10a of only the first dielectric resonator 1, it being understood that the conductors on the dielectric body first end surface 10b of the second resonator 2 is of like arrangement. As indicated in this figure, the shortest distance L_a between resonator coupling conductor 7a and inner conductor extension 9a, and the shortest distance L_b between terminal conductor 8a and inner conductor extension 9a, are both longer than either of the shortest distance L_1 and L_2 between inner conductor extension 9a and outer conductor extensions 17a and 18a. The same dimensional relations apply, of course, to the conductors on the dielectric body first end surface 10b of the second dielectric resonator 2.

Further the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b are so shaped, sized, and arranged that capacitances between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b, and capacitances between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b, are both less than capacitances between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions.

All the conductors on the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, the inner conductors 4a and 4b, outer conductors 5a and 5b, resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b, terminal conductors 8a and 8b, inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b, and outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions, can be formed by coating a pasted electroconductive material such as silver on the required parts of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b and then by firing the coatings. Alternatively, the conductors on the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b may be created first by covering the complete surfaces of the dielectric bodies with a conductive material, either by coating and firing or by plating, and then by removing unwanted parts of the coatings or platings either by laser beam irradiation or by a cutting tool.

Constructed and coupled together as in the forego-

ing, the pair of dielectric resonators 1 and 2 are usually mounted on a printed circuit board shown at 25 in both FIGS. 10 and 11. The circuit board 25, itself of electrically insulating material, has printed on its major surface a grounding conductor layer 26 and two terminal conductor layers 27 and 28.

The grounding conductor layer 26 on the circuit board is generally in the shape of the capital T, having a first limb 26a for contact with the outer conductors 5a and 5b of both resonators 1 and 2, and a second limb 26b for contact with the outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b of both resonators 1 and 2. The terminal conductor layers 27 and 28 are intended for contact respectively with the terminal conductors 8a and 8b of both resonators 1 and 2 and so shaped and sized as to fit those parts of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b which overlie the dielectric body third side surfaces 14a and 14b.

The resonators 1 and 2 are positioned on the circuit board 25 as indicated by the broken lines in FIG. 11. So positioned, the resonators are affixed to the circuit board 25 as by solder 29, FIG. 10, joining the outer conductors 5a and 5b and their extensions 17a and 17b to the grounding conductor layer 26, and the terminal conductors 8a and 8b to the terminal conductor layers 27 and 28.

Since the two dielectric resonators 1 and 2 of this representative wave filter are of like construction, either of the two terminal conductors 8a and 8b thereon can be an input, and the other an output. The same applies to the two terminal conductor layers 27 and 28 on the circuit board 25. Also, notwithstanding the showings of FIGS. 10 and 11, the circuit board 25 may be variously modified to permit various other circuit components to be mounted thereon.

Reference is now directed to FIG. 12, an equivalent circuit diagram of the representative filter set forth above, for a discussion of the electrical details of the device. Terminals T_1 and T_2 in this diagram represent the terminal conductors 8a and 8b on the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, or the terminal conductor layers 27 and 28 on the circuit board 25. Capacitors C_1 and C_4 represent the capacitances between terminal conductors 8a and 8b and inner conductors 4a and 4b together with their extensions 9a and 9b. Capacitors C_2 and C_3 represent the capacitances between resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and inner conductors 4a and 4b together with their extensions 9a and 9b. Capacitors C_{t1} and C_{t2} represent the sums of the capacitances between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and outer conductor extensions 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b and the capacitances between outer conductor extensions 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b and inner conductors 4a and 4b. L_a , L_b , C_a and C_b represent the resonators proper of the two dielectric resonators 1 and 2. Connected in parallel with the parallel circuits of C_a and L_a and of C_b and L_b , respectively, the capacitors C_{t1} and C_{t2} function to achieve the aforementioned wavelength shortening ef-

fect.

At A in the FIG. 13 graph is plotted the frequency characteristic of the above described representative wave filter. The main resonance peak P0 occurs at the fundamental frequency f_0 , providing a passband. The spurious resonance peak P1 occurs at slightly below the frequency $3f_0$, the third harmonic of the fundamental frequency f_0 .

Were it not for the outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions, the stray capacitances and stray inductances between resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and ground would be so low that the peak of the spurious resonance would remain virtually unaffected. The resulting filter characteristic would then be as indicated by the dashed line labeled B in FIG. 13, failing to sufficiently attenuate the third harmonic $3f_0$.

By contrast, thanks to the provision of the outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions, the stray capacitances between resonator coupling capacitors 7a and 7b and ground become so high that, in coaction with the stray inductances, they serve to lower the peak frequency of the spurious resonance from B to A in FIG. 13. Such stray capacitances and stray inductances are indicated at Cs and Ls in FIG. 12.

Possibly, some wave filters fabricated according to this invention may fail to offer the desired characteristics. Such failures are easy to occur because the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b take the form of ceramic moldings, which are notoriously susceptible to dimensional instability, and, as a natural consequence, because the various conductors on the ceramic bodies are just no less subject to errors in shape, size or position. The following remedies are possible in such cases.

If the resonance frequency f_0 is lower than the desired one, either the outer conductors 5a and 5b may be cut shorter, or either or both of the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and the outer conductor extensions 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b may be cut off to required extents. For decreasing the capacitances of the capacitors C_2 and C_3 in FIG. 12, parts of the resonator coupling capacitors 7a and 7b, preferably their corners adjacent the outer conductors 5a and 5b, may be removed. Similarly, for decreasing the capacitances of the capacitors C_1 and C_4 , parts of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b, preferably their corners adjacent the outer conductors 5a and 5b, may be removed.

In order to change the limit frequencies f_1 and f_2 in FIG. 13, the pattern of the grounding conductor layer 26, FIG. 11, on the circuit board 25 may be altered as indicated by the arrows. The limit frequencies f_1 and f_2 will come closer to the resonance frequency f_0 if the grounding conductor layer 26 is made smaller for less contact with the outer conductors 5a and 5b, and go away from the resonance frequency f_0 if the grounding conductor layer is made larger for greater contact with the outer conductors.

The following is a summary of the advantages gained by the wave filter set forth above with reference to FIGS. 1-13:

1. Interposed between the terminal conductors 8a and 8b, as best depicted in FIG. 10, the outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b function to shield the terminal conductors from each other, minimizing signal leakage from input to output. On the circuit board 25, too, the terminal conductor layers 27 and 28 are isolated from each other by the part 26b of the grounding conductor layer 26.
2. As the outer conductor first 17a and 17b and second 18a and 18b extensions and inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b provide the capacitors C_1 and C_2 , FIG. 12, a lower resonance frequency is obtainable for the same length of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b. In other words, a smaller filter is obtainable for a given resonance frequency.
3. The inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b are spaced from the resonator coupling capacitors 7a and 7b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b, so much so that little or no change in capacitances therebetween will occur even if the inner conductor extensions are formed displaced to the positions indicated by the dashed lines in FIG. 9. In this case, moreover, the distances L_1 between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and outer conductor extensions 18a and 18b will shorten whereas the distances L_2 between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b will grow, but the sum of the distances L_1 and L_2 will be the same as if the inner conductor extensions are formed in the proper positions indicated by the solid lines. In short the filter will suffer no substantial change in characteristics from such displacement of the inner conductor extensions.
4. With the noted decrease in capacitances between inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b, and those between inner conductor extensions and terminal conductors 8a and 8b, these resonator coupling conductors and terminal conductors can be made so large in size, for given values of the capacitors C_1 - C_4 , FIG. 12, as to permit easy and positive coupling of the resonators to each other and to external circuits.

Embodiment of FIG. 14

Embodiments shown in FIGS. 14-17 are all alike in featuring inner conductor extensions of various modified shapes. Although these figures show only first dielectric resonators 1a-1d, it is understood that each of these resonators are to be combined, in the manner set forth in connection with the first disclosed embodiment, with another resonator of similar design to make up a filter in accordance with the invention. It is also understood

that the resonators 1a-1d are identical with the above described resonators 1 and 2 in details other than the inner conductor extensions.

The FIG. 14 resonator 1a has an inner conductor extension 9a₁ which is similar to its counterpart 9a of the FIG. 1 or 9 resonator 1 except that its two constituent portions of square shape are formed to include series of teeth 31 along their edges adjacent the outer conductor extensions 17a and 18a. These teeth are intended to be selectively removed for adjustment of the frequency characteristics of the filter.

Embodiment of FIG. 15

The FIG. 15 resonator 1b features an inner conductor extension 9a₂ in the shape of two strips each bent at three spaced points into an approximately square shape. So shaped, the inner conductor extension 9a₂ function as both inductance element and capacitor. Consequently, the equivalent electric circuit of a filter comprised of two such dielectric resonators 1b needs modification of the FIG. 12, showing into one such that the capacitors C_1 and C_2 are connected, via inductance elements, in parallel with the Ca-La and Cb-Lb parallel circuits, respectively.

Embodiment of FIG. 16

The FIG. 16 resonator 1c features an inner conductor extension 9a₃ having two portions of circular shape in places of the square shaped portions of the inner conductor extension 9a of the FIG. 1 or 9 resonator 1. The circular extensions perform the same functions as do the square or rectangular shaped ones.

Embodiment of FIG. 17

The FIG. 17 resonator 1d features an inner conductor extension 9a₄ in the shape of a band with tapering ends. Essentially, this extension 9a₄ is akin to the FIG. 1 or 9 extension 9a except that the pair of square shaped portions of the latter are directly joined to each other. The double taper band extension 9a₄, or an elliptic extension indicated by the dashed line in FIG. 17, perform the same functions as do the square or rectangular shaped ones.

Embodiment of FIGS. 18-20

The wave filter seen in FIGS. 18 and 19 differs from all the foregoing embodiments in having three dielectric resonators in juxtaposition. For an easier understanding of this embodiment, the filter may be considered to have a third dielectric resonator 30 interposed between two resonators 1 and 2 of the same construction as in FIGS. 1-13.

The third or intermediate resonator 30 is similar to the other two resonators 1 and 2 in having a dielectric

body 3c with a resonance hole 16c extending there-through, an inner conductor 4c lining the surface of the resonance hole, an outer conductor 5c covering the outer surfaces of the dielectric body, leaving exposed their parts adjoining the dielectric body first end surface 10c, and a shorting conductor 6c on the dielectric body second end surface 11c. The third resonator 30 does, however, differ from the other two in having no terminal conductors and, instead, in having two resonator coupling conductors 7c and 7d, instead of one in each of the other two resonators, and an inner conductor extension 9c and outer conductor extension 17c which are both different in shape from their corresponding parts of the other two resonators.

The two resonator coupling conductors 7c and 7d are formed on subparts of the noted exposed parts of the top and both sides, as viewed in FIG. 19, of the dielectric body 3c. The inner conductor extension 9c is formed on part of the lower half, as seen in FIG. 19, of the dielectric body first end surface 10c. The outer conductor extension 17c overlies the bottom surface and lower parts of the opposite side surfaces of the dielectric body 3c.

The three resonators 1, 2 and 30 are coupled together, both mechanically and electrically, by solder or like conductive bonding agent joining their outer conductors 5a, 5b and 5c and their resonator coupling conductors 7a, 7b, 7c and 7d.

Electrically, the three resonator filter of FIGS. 18 and 19 is configured as diagramed in FIG. 20. The capacitance C_c and inductance L_c in this diagram represent the resonance circuit due to the inner conductor 4c and outer conductor 5c of the middle resonator 30, and the capacitance C_3 is due to the inner conductor extension 9c and outer conductor extension 17c and intended for the wavelength shortening effect. The capacitance C_5 represents that between the inner conductor 4c and resonator coupling conductor 7c of the middle resonator 30, and the capacitance C_6 that between the inner conductor 4c and resonator coupling conductor 7d of the middle resonator. The other electrical details of this filter are the same as those of the first disclosed device, as has been set forth with reference to FIG. 12.

It will be appreciated that the inner conductor extension 9c is spaced the greatest possible distance away from the resonator coupling conductors 7c and 7d in the third resonator 30. This positional relationship provides the same advantages as those pointed out in connection with the first embodiment.

Embodiment of FIGS. 21-23

The wave filter seen in FIGS. 21-23 is similar to the FIGS. 1-13 filter in having a pair of dielectric resonators 1e and 2e coupled together, so that the FIGS. 21-23 device will be best understood by comparison with the FIGS. 1-13 one. FIG. 21 corresponds to FIG. 1, FIG. 22 to FIG. 3, and FIG. 23 to FIG. 4.

Constructionally, the resonators 1e and 2e of the FIGS. 21-23 filter are similar to the resonators 1 and 2 of the FIGS. 1-13 device except the following two points:

1. The resonators 1e and 2e have no inner conductor extensions; instead, the resonance holes 16a and 16b are constituted of smaller diameter portions 32a and 32b and larger diameter portions 33a and 33b in axial alignment.
2. All the conductors 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b, 8a, 8b, 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b of the resonators 1e and 2e are of two layers, as indicated by way of example at 36 and 37 in FIG. 22 for the outer conductor 5a of the resonator 1e.

The larger diameter portions 33a and 33b of the resonance holes 16a and 16b lie next to the first end surfaces 10a and 10b of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, and the smaller diameter portions 32a and 32b next to the second end surface 11a and 11b. The axial dimension of the resonance hole larger diameter portions 33a and 33b is greater than the dimensions of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b in the axial direction of the resonance holes 16a and 16b. Consequently, the distance between the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and the inner conductor portions 35a and 35b lining the resonance hole larger diameter portions 33a and 33b is wholly less than the distance between the outer conductors 5a and 5b and the inner conductor portions 34a and 34b lining the resonance hole smaller diameter portions 32a and 32b.

From the foregoing positional and dimensional relations it is possible to make greater the capacitances C_1 , C_2 , C_3 and C_4 in FIG. 12. In cases where such larger capacitances are not needed, the resonators 1e and 2e may be made more compact through size reduction of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b. The provision of the resonance hole larger diameter portions 33a and 33b serves the additional purpose of improving the wavelength shortening effect.

According to the second recited feature of the FIGS. 21-23 filter, all the conductors 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b, 8a, 8b, 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b of the resonators 1e and 2e are each of two layers, the baked-on first layer 36 and the plated-on second layer 37. Typically, the first layer 36 is formed by coating a silver paste on the required parts of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b and firing the coatings. A metal is then plated on the silver layers. The two-layer conductors serve to improve the electrical characteristics of the filter through reduction of their resistances, besides enhancing the mechanical strength.

FIGS. 24 and 25 are explanatory of a preferred method of creating the two-layer conductors on the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b, taking, however, only the dielectric body 3a for example. A silver paste may first be printed not only on those parts of the surfaces of the

dielectric body 3a where the conductors 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a, 8a, 17a and 18a are to be formed, but also on the first end surface 10a of the dielectric body. Then the printings may be fired, thereby forming the first layers 36 of the inner conductor 4a, outer conductor 5a, shorting conductor 6a, resonator coupling conductor 7a, terminal conductor 8a, and outer conductor extensions 17a and 18a, as well as of an additional conductor on the dielectric body first end surface 10a, as illustrated in FIG. 24. Then the second layers 37 may be formed on the first layers 36 by barrel plating, a known type of electroplating method, as in FIG. 25.

The resonance hole larger diameter portion 33a is relatively small in area. However, since the first conductor layer 36 preformed on this portion is joined via that on the dielectric body first end surface 10a to the first conductor layers of the resonator coupling conductor 7a, terminal conductor 8a, and outer conductor extensions 17a and 18a, the total area of these first conductor layers is large enough to permit the second conductor layer to be favorably created thereon by barrel plating.

Then the conductor layers on the dielectric body first end surface 10a may be ground off to complete the first dielectric resonator 1e shown in FIGS. 21 and 22. The second resonator 2a, being of exactly the same construction as the first 1e, can be fabricated by exactly the same method.

As an alternative method of fabricating the FIGS. 21-23 filter, the FIG. 24 article may be coupled to another such article. Then the second conductor layers 37, FIG. 25, may be plated on the first conductor layers 36 of both articles that have been coupled together. Then the conductor layers 36 and 37 may be ground off the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b of both articles, thereby completing the FIGS. 21-23 filter.

This alternative method offers the advantage that the removal of the conductor layers 36 and 37 from the dielectric body first end surfaces 10a and 10b can be practically concurrent with the fine tuning of the resonance frequency through grinding of the dielectric body first end surfaces.

Embodiment of FIGS. 26-32

The resonators 1f and 2f of the FIGS. 26-32 filter are akin to the resonators 1 and 2 of the FIGS. 1-13 filter except for the following two dissimilarities:

1. The inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b and outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b of the FIGS. 1-13 resonators 1 and 2 are both absent from the FIGS. 26-32 resonators 1f and 2f.
2. The remaining outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b, referred as the first extensions in the FIGS. 1-13 filter, of the FIGS. 26-32 resonators 1f and 2f are recessed at 40a, FIG. 27, and 40b, FIG. 30.

As will be understood from both FIGS. 27 and 30,

the recesses 40a and 40b are formed in those parts of the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b which overlie the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b, and lie next to the outer conductors 5a and 5b. The dimension of the recesses 40a and 40b in a direction parallel to the resonance hole axis is less than that of the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b, so that the outer conductor extensions on the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b are comprised of a constricted neck 41a or 41b and a head 42a or 42b. The outer conductor extension heads 42a and 42b are the same as the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b in dimension in a direction parallel to the resonator hole axis. The heads 42a and 42b intervene between the terminal conductors 8a and 8b, effectively isolating them from each other.

The conductor patterns on the dielectric body third or bottom surfaces 14a and 14b are as pictured in FIGS. 29 and 31. A comparison of these figures with FIGS. 6 and 8 will show that the bottom conductor patterns of the FIGS. 26-32 resonators 1f and 2f are the same as those of the FIGS. 1-13 resonators 1 and 2. The resonators 1f and 2f may therefore be mounted to the circuit board 25, FIGS. 10 and 11, by the same method as are the resonators 1 and 2.

In FIG. 32 is given the equivalent electric circuit diagram of the FIGS. 26-31 filter, in which parts having their counterparts in the FIG. 12 diagram are designated by like indicia. Inductance L_s' shown connected in series with capacitance C_s includes components due to the necks 41a and 41b of the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b, therefore, the FIG. 32 inductance L_s' is greater than the FIG. 12 inductance L_s .

Like the FIG. 12 capacitance C_3 , the FIG. 32 capacitance C_3 is due to the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b. Since the outer conductor extension heads 42a and 42b are the same as aforesaid with the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b in dimension in a direction parallel to the resonance hole axis, the FIG. 32 capacitance C_3 is approximately equal to the FIG. 12 capacitance C_s .

The capacitances C_{g1} and C_{g2} seen in FIG. 32 represent those between terminal conductors 8a and 8b and outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b. FIG. 12 omits the showing of these capacitances.

As indicated by the dot-and-dash curve C in FIG. 13, the peak P_1 of the spurious resonance of the FIGS. 26-32 filter will become lower if the inductance L_s' of FIG. 32 is appropriately determined through adjustment of the position and size of the recesses 40a and 40b in the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b. The extreme attenuation frequency above this spurious resonance peak P_1 can thus be set at or near the third harmonic $3f_0$ of the fundamental frequency f_0 . The third harmonic can be most effectively suppressed in this manner.

In fabricating the FIGS. 26-32 filter the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b with the constricted

necks 41a and 41b may be formed simultaneously with the outer conductors 5a and 5b by printing a pasted conductor. Then, if the printed conductor patterns have proved not to provide the desired inductance, the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b may be made shorter as by a laser beam or a grinding tool.

Optionally, as indicated by the broken lines in FIG. 27, additional holes 43a and 43b for adjustment of the frequency characteristic may be formed in the first end faces 10a and 10b of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b and parallel to the resonance holes 16a and 16b. For the same purpose, as also indicated by the broken lines in the same figure, recesses 44a and 44b may be formed in the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b. These holes 43a and 43b and recesses 44a and 44b serve to reduce the stray capacitances between resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b and terminal conductors 8a and 8b. The reduction of the stray capacitances serve, in turn, to make lower the extreme attenuation frequency f_1 of FIG. 13 and to make greater the amount of attenuation at that extreme frequency.

Embodiment of FIG. 33

FIG. 33 shows a modification 1g of the first dielectric resonator 1f of the FIGS. 26-32 filter, to be combined with another similarly modified resonator, not shown, to make up a wave filter in accordance with the invention. The modified resonator 1g features a recess 40a₁ which is formed in the outer conductor 5a, instead of in the outer conductor extension 17a as in FIG. 27. Thus the outer conductor extension 17a, or its head 42a₁, is of substantially the same size as the outer conductor first extension 17a of the FIGS. 1-13 filter, and is joined to the outer conductor 5a via a neck 41a₁, although this neck may be considered part of the outer conductor rather than of the extension 17a.

Thanks to the inductance due to the necks 41a₁ of this 1g and other unshown resonators the FIG. 33 filter gains the same advantages as the FIGS. 26-32 filter.

Optionally, as indicated by the broken lines designated 45 in FIG. 33, the recess 40a₁ may be enlarged into the outer conductor extension 17a for a higher inductance.

Embodiment of FIG. 34

FIG. 34 shows another modification 1h of the first dielectric resonator 1f of the FIGS. 26-32 filter, also to be combined with another similarly modified resonator, not shown, to make up a wave filter in accordance with the invention. The modified resonator 1h features a second recess 46 which is formed in the outer conductor 5a, in addition to the first recess 40a₂ formed in the outer conductor extension 17a. Thus the outer conductor extension 17a is itself similar to that of the FIG. 27 resonator 1f, being comprised of the constricted neck 41a₂ and head 42a₂.

As in the FIGS. 26-32 filter, the peak of spurious resonance can be made to occur at a lower frequency than heretofore by virtue of not only the inductance due to the necks 41a₂, but also that due to the second recesses 46, of this 1h and other unshown resonators.

Embodiment of FIGS. 35 and 36

FIG. 35 shows the second side surface 13a, and FIG. 36 the third side surface or bottom 14a, of still another modification 1i of the first dielectric resonator if of the FIGS. 26-32 filter. This modified resonator 1i is also to be combined with another similarly modified resonator, not shown, to make up a wave filter in accordance with the invention.

With reference first to FIG. 35 it will be noted that that part of the outer conductor extension 17am, or of its head 42a₃, which overlies the dielectric body second side surface is wholly separated from the outer conductor 5a; that is, the recess 40a₃ extends down to the bottom of the dielectric body. Reference to FIG. 36 will then reveal that the recess 40a₃ extends farther beyond the corner between the dielectric body second 13a and third 14a side surfaces. As another recess 47 is formed on the dielectric body third side surface 14a, a neck 41a₃ is left between the recesses 40a₃ and 47, joining the outer conductor 5a to that part of the outer conductor extension head 42a₃ which overlies the dielectric body third side surface.

As in the FIGS. 26-32 filter, the peak of spurious resonance can be made to occur at a lower frequency than heretofore by virtue of the inductance due to the necks 41a₃ of this 1i and other unshown resonators.

Embodiment of FIG. 37

The pair of resonators 1j and 2j shown in FIG. 37 are modifications of the resonators 1 and 2 of the FIG. 1-13 filter. The following description of the resonators 1j and 2j will be best understood from a comparison of FIGS. 4 and 37.

The difference of the FIG. 37 resonators 1j and 2j from the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2 are:

1. The inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b of the FIG. 4 resonators are absent from the FIG. 37 resonators.
2. The outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b of the FIG. 4 resonators are also absent from the FIG. 37 resonators.
3. The FIG. 37 resonators have depressions 50a and 50b formed in the dielectric body first side surfaces 12a and 12b, in which depressions there are received parts of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b.

The partial placement of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b in the dielectric body depressions

50a and 50b serve to make greater the capacitances between these conductors 7a and 7b and the inner conductors 4a and 4b.

There is another advantage arising from the partial placement of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b in the dielectric body depressions 50a and 50b. The top surfaces of the conductors 7a and 7b can be made lower than those of the outer conductors 5a and 5b, or even those of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b. In this manner, when an electromagnetic shield is placed upon the outer conductors 5a and 5b, the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b are prevented from contacting the shield.

Embodiment of FIG. 38

The pair of resonators 1k and 2k of FIG. 38 will also be best understood from a comparison of the first disclosed resonators 1 and 2 as pictured in FIG. 4. The differences of the FIG. 38 resonators 1k and 2k from the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2 are:

1. The inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b of the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2 are absent from the FIG. 38 resonators 1k and 2k.
2. The outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b of the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2 are also absent from the FIG. 38 resonators 1k and 2k.
3. The FIG. 38 resonators 1k and 2k have resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b are disposed in locations different from those of the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2.

The resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b overlie the dielectric body second side surface 13a and 13b and first end surface 10a and 10b in the FIG. 38 resonators 1k and 2k, instead of on the dielectric body first and second side surfaces as in the FIG. 4 resonators. The absence of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b from the dielectric body first side surfaces 12a and 12b serve to prevent their contact with the electromagnetic shield placed on the outer conductors 5a and 5b.

Embodiment of FIG. 39

The pair of resonators 1/ and 2/ shown in FIG. 39 differ from the resonators 1 and 2 of the FIGS. 1-13 filter in:

1. The absence of the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b.
2. The absence of the outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b.
3. The shape of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b.

The shape of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b of the FIG. 39 filter differ from that of the FIGS. 1-13 dielectric

bodies in that all the longitudinal edges of the FIG. 39 bodies 3a and 3b are rounded with a predetermined radius. The resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b, terminal conductors 8a and 8b, and outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b are all formed on the two neighboring side surfaces of each dielectric body across the rounded edge therebetween.

The rounded longitudinal edges of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b can be utilized advantageously in coupling together the two resonators 1/ and 2/ and mounting them on the circuit board 25 as in FIG. 39. Since the rounded edges provide a gap therebetween when the resonators 1/ and 2/ are placed side by side, an electroconductive bonding agent such as solder can be filled in this gap, as indicated at 24, for coupling them together. In mounting the resonators on the circuit board 25, the bonding agent can be filled at 29 in the space created by the two contiguous rounded edges between the outer conductor extensions 17a and 17b and the grounding conductor 26 on the circuit board 25. The terminal conductors 8a and 8b can likewise be joined at 29 to the terminal conductors 27 and 28 on the circuit board 25. Not only can the resonators 1/ and 2/ be positively coupled to each other and to the circuit board 25, but also it is visually observable whether they are or not.

The edges of the dielectric bodies may therefore be rounded with any radius that is considered optimum for firm coupling of the resonators to each other and to the circuit board. It is even possible to form the dielectric bodies into cylindrical shape.

Embodiment of FIGS. 40-42

The pair of resonators 1m and 2m shown in FIGS. 40-42 differ from the resonators 1 and 2 of the FIGS. 1-13 filter in:

1. The position of the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b.
2. The absence of the inner conductor extensions.
3. The absence of the outer conductor second extensions 18a and 18b.
4. The shape and size of the remaining outer conductor extensions 17a' and 17b'.

The resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b of the FIGS. 40-42 resonators 1m and 2m are disposed centrally of the second side surfaces 13a and 13b of the dielectric bodies 3a and 3b. That part of the outer conductors 5a and 5b which overlie the dielectric body second side surfaces 13a and 13b have windows created therein for loosely receiving the resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b.

The remaining outer conductor extensions 17a' and 17b' are much larger in size than the outer conductor first extensions 17a and 17b of the FIGS. 4 resonators 1 and 2. The extensions 17a' and 17b' cover all of the dielectric body first 12a and 12b and second 13a and

13b side surfaces and parts of the dielectric body third 14a and 14b and fourth 15a and 15b side surfaces. The terminal conductors 8a and 8b are the same in shape, size and position with those of the FIG. 4 resonators 1 and 2.

Thus the outer conductor extensions 17a' and 17b' contribute toward greater isolation of the terminal conductors 8a and 8b from each other and also provide the capacitances C_{t1}' and C_{t2}' , FIG. 32, for the wavelength shortening effect. The resonator coupling conductors 7a and 7b of this embodiment also provide the capacitances C_2 and C_3 of both FIGS. 12 and 32 circuits.

Embodiment of FIGS. 43 and 44

The pair of dielectric resonators 1n and 2n of the FIGS. 43 and 44 filter are similar in construction to the resonators 1m and 2m of the FIGS. 40-42 filter. The only difference between these filters is that the resonator 2n of the FIGS. 43 and 44 filter is opposite in orientation to the corresponding resonator 2m of the FIGS. 40-42 filter.

With the resonators 1n and 2n so oriented in opposite directions, the terminal conductors 8a and 8b are spaced a greater distance from each other than when the resonators are oriented as in FIGS. 40-42. This positional advantage coacts with the outer conductor extensions 17a' and 17b', as well as with the outer conductors 5a and 5b, to afford still greater isolation between the terminal conductors 8a and 8b.

Possible Modifications

Notwithstanding the foregoing detailed disclosure it is not desired that the present invention be limited by the exact showing of the drawings or the description thereof. A variety of modifications and alterations are considered possible in the practice of this invention in order to conform to design preferences or to the requirements of each specific application. The following is but a few of such possible modifications:

1. Not only two or three dielectric resonators, as disclosed herein, but four or more could be juxtaposed for constituting wave filters in accordance with the invention.
2. The larger diameter portions 33a and 33b of the resonance holes of the FIGS. 21-23 dielectric resonators 1e and 2e could be square or otherwise polygonal in cross sectional shape.
3. The larger diameter portions 33a and 33b of the resonance holes of the FIGS. 21-23 resonators 1e and 2e could be made so shallow (e.g., somewhat more than the thickness of the inner conductors 4a and 4b) that the inner conductor portions 35a and 35b lining the larger diameter portions would perform the same functions as the inner conductor extensions 9a and 9b of the FIGS. 1-13 filter.

Claims

1. A dielectric wave filter having at least two dielectric resonators (1 and 2 with or without 30) in juxtaposition, wherein each dielectric resonator comprises a dielectric body (3a or 3b) having a pair of opposite end surfaces (10a and 11a, or 10b and 11b), a plurality of side surfaces (12a, 13a, 14a and 15a; or 12b, 13b, 14b and 15b) between the pair of end surfaces, and a resonance hole (16a or 16b) extending between the pair of end surfaces, one (13a or 13b) of the side surfaces of each dielectric body confronting the other dielectric body, an inner conductor (4a or 4b) covering an inner surface of the dielectric body, an outer conductor (5a or 5b) covering those parts of the side surfaces of the dielectric body which are contiguous to one (11a or 11b) of the end surfaces of the dielectric body, the outer conductors on both dielectric bodies being joined (at 23) to each other both mechanically and electrically, a shorting conductor (6a or 6b) covering said one end surface (11a or 11b) of the dielectric body and electrically interconnecting the inner and the outer conductors, and a resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) covering part of at least that side surface (13a or 13b) of each dielectric body which confronts the other dielectric body, the resonator coupling conductors on both dielectric bodies being joined (at 24) to each other both mechanically and electrically, characterized in that a terminal conductor (8a or 8b) covers part of the side surfaces of each dielectric body and disposed adjacent the other (10a or 10b) of the end surfaces thereof, the terminal conductors on both dielectric bodies being disposed at least on those side surfaces (15a and 15b) of the dielectric bodies which face away from each other, and that an outer conductor extension (17a or 17b) extends from the outer conductor (5a or 5b) on each dielectric body toward said other end surface (10a or 10b) thereof, the outer conductor extensions on both dielectric bodies being disposed at least on those side surfaces (13a and 13b) of the dielectric bodies which confront each other, thereby intervening between the terminal conductors (8a and 8b) on both dielectric bodies for electrically isolating the terminal conductors from each other.
2. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the side surfaces of each dielectric body (3a or 3b) include a first side surface (12a or 12b), a second side surface (13a or 13b) contiguous to the first side surface and confronting the other dielectric body, a third side surface (14a or 14b) contiguous to the second side surface, and a fourth side surface (15a or 15b) contiguous to both first and third side surfaces and facing away from the other dielectric body, characterized in that the resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) on each dielectric body covers

part of the first side surface (12a or 12b) thereof in addition to part of the second side surface (13a or 13b) thereof.

3. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the outer conductor extension (17a or 17b) on each dielectric body covers parts of the second (13a or 13b) and third (14a or 14b) side surfaces thereof.
4. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the terminal conductor (8a or 8b) on each dielectric body covers parts of the third (14a or 14b) and fourth (15a or 15b) side surfaces thereof.
5. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each dielectric resonator (1 or 2) further comprises a second outer conductor extension (18a or 18b) extending from the outer conductor (5a or 5b) on each dielectric body toward said other end surface (10a or 10b) thereof.
6. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 5, wherein the side surfaces of each dielectric body (3a or 3b) include a first side surface (12a or 12b), a second side surface (13a or 13b) contiguous to the first side surface and confronting the other dielectric body, a third side surface (14a or 14b) contiguous to the second side surface, and a fourth side surface (15a or 15b) contiguous to both first and third side surfaces and facing away from the other dielectric body, characterized in that the second outer conductor extension (18a or 18b) on each dielectric body covers parts of the first (12a or 12b) and fourth (15a or 15b) side surfaces thereof.
7. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the terminal conductor (8a or 8b) on each dielectric body covers parts of the third (14a or 14b) and fourth (15a or 15b) side surfaces thereof.
8. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that each dielectric resonator (1 or 2) further comprises an inner conductor extension (9a or 9b) disposed on said other end surface (10a or 10b) of each dielectric body and joined to the inner conductor (4a or 4b) thereof.
9. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the inner conductor extension (9a or 9b) is so patterned on said other end surface (10a or 10b) of each dielectric body that capacitance between the inner conductor extension and the resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) is less than capacitance between the inner conductor extension and each outer conductor extension (17a or 17b),

and that capacitance between the inner conductor extension and the terminal conductor (8a or 8b) is less than capacitance between the inner conductor extension and each outer conductor extension.

10. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the inner conductor extension (9a or 9b) on said other end surface of each dielectric body is symmetrical in shape with respect to a line connecting a corner between the first (12a or 12b) and the second (13a or 13b) side surface of the dielectric body and a corner between the third (14a or 14b) and the fourth (15a or 15b) side surface of the dielectric body.
11. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the inner conductor extension (9a or 9b) on said other end surface (10a or 10b) of each dielectric body comprises a first portion extending from the resonance hole (16a or 16b) toward a corner between the second (13a or 13b) and the third (14a or 14b) side surface of the dielectric body, and a second portion extending from the resonance hole toward a corner between the first (12a or 12b) and the fourth (15a or 15b) side surface of the dielectric body.
12. A dielectric wave filter as claimed claim 11, characterized in that the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a or 9b) are each rectangular in shape.
13. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that each of the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a₁) is formed to include a plurality of teeth (31) along their edges..
14. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that each of the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a₂) is in the shape of a strip bent right-angularly at a plurality of points thereon.
15. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a₃) are each circular in shape.
16. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a₄) are each in the shape of a band having a tapering end.
17. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the first and the second portion of each inner conductor extension (9a₅) are in combination elliptic in shape.

18. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the resonance hole (16a or 16b) in each dielectric body comprises a smaller diameter portion (32a or 32b) adjacent said one end surface (11a or 11b) of the dielectric body, and a larger diameter portion (33a or 33b) adjacent said other end surface (10a or 10b) of the dielectric body. 5
19. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the inner conductor (4a or 4b), outer conductor (5a or 5b), shorting conductor (6a or 6b), resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b), terminal conductor (8a or 8b), and outer conductor extension (17a or 17b) on each dielectric body are each a lamination of layers (36 and 37) of different electroconductive materials. 10 15
20. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the outer conductor extension (17a or 17b) on each dielectric body is formed to include a constricted neck portion (41a or 41b) and a head portion (42a or 42b). 20
21. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the side surfaces of each dielectric body include a first side surface (12a or 12b), a second side surface (13a or 13b) contiguous to the first side surface and confronting the other dielectric body, a third side surface (14a or 14b) contiguous to the second side surface, and a fourth side surface (15a or 15b) contiguous to both first and third side surfaces and facing away from the other dielectric body, characterized in that each resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) covers parts of the first and the second side surface of each dielectric body, and that each resonator coupling conductor is partly received in a depression (50a or 50b) formed in the first side surface. 25 30 35
22. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) additionally covers part of said other end surface (10a or 10b) of each dielectric body. 40
23. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each dielectric body has rounded corners between the side surfaces. 45
24. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the resonator coupling conductor (7a or 7b) on each dielectric body is disposed approximately centrally of one side surface (13a or 13b) of the dielectric body which confronts the other dielectric body. 50 55
25. A dielectric wave filter as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the dielectric resonators (1 and 2) are of like construction and oriented in opposite directions.

FIG. 1

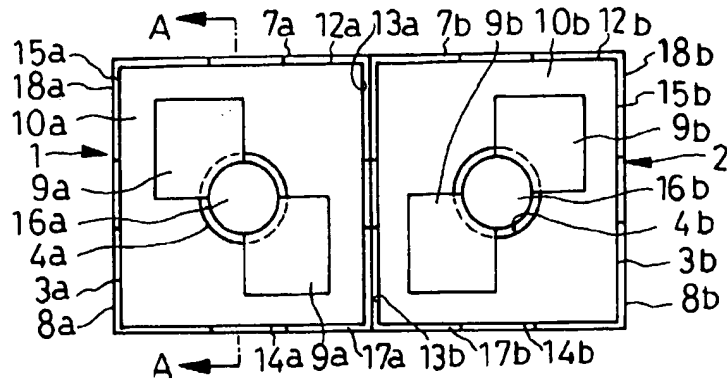


FIG. 2

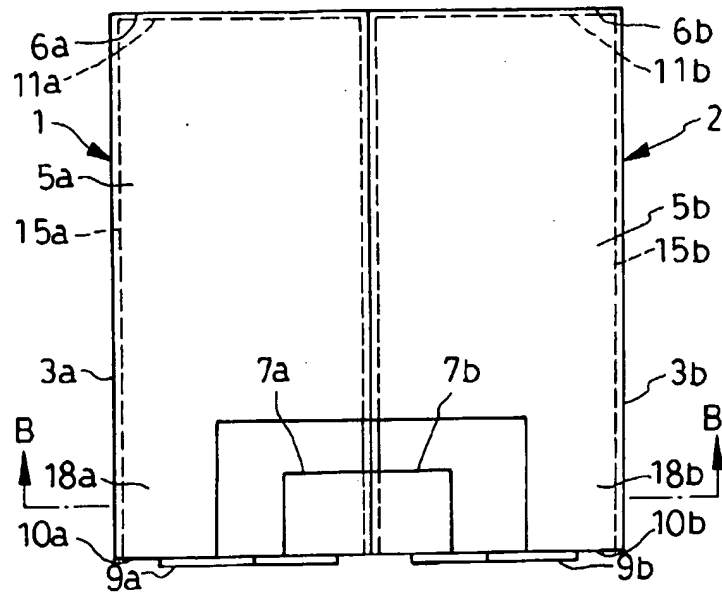


FIG. 3

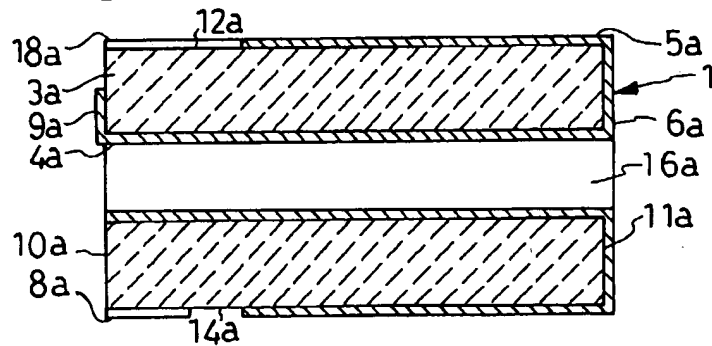


FIG. 4

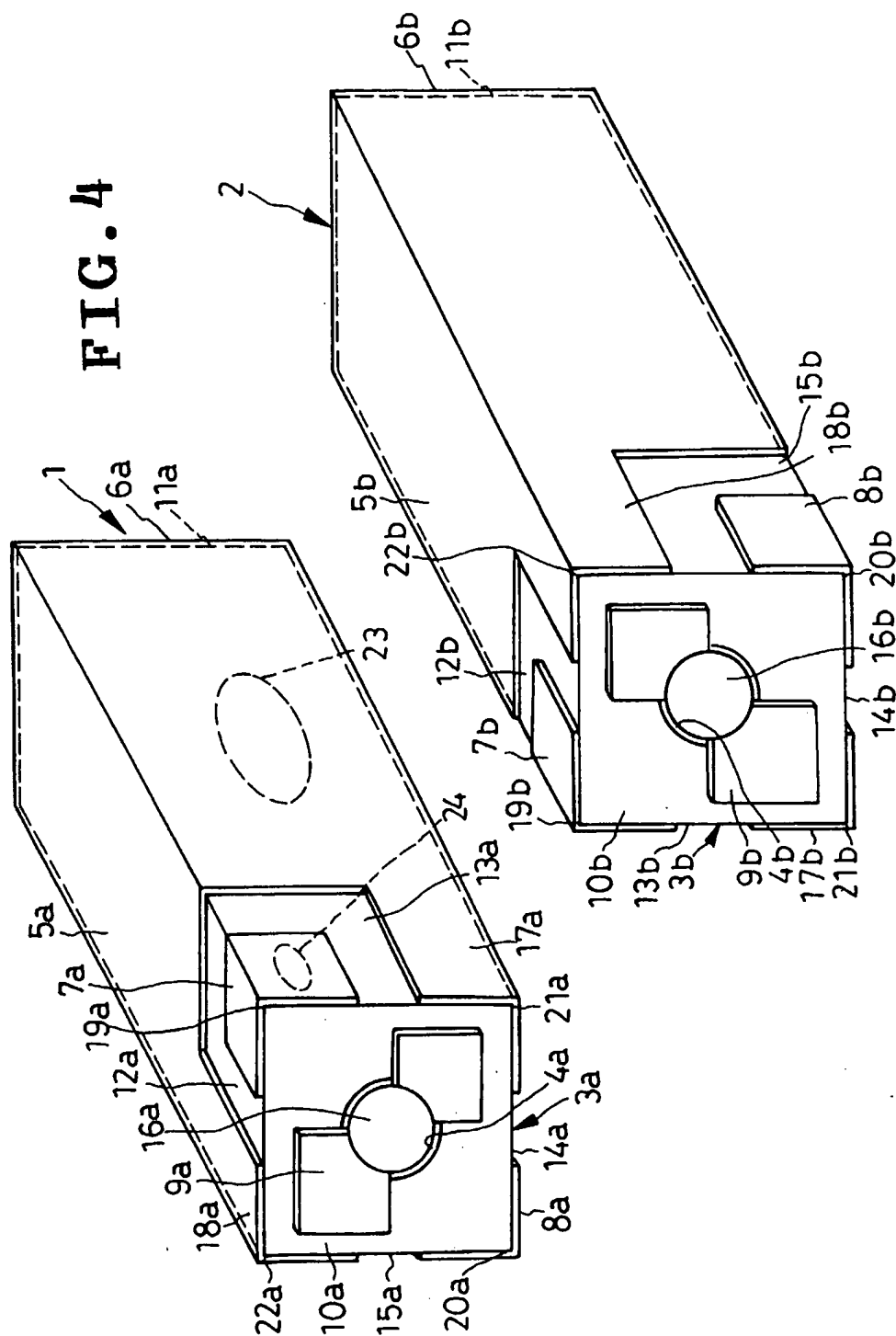


FIG. 5

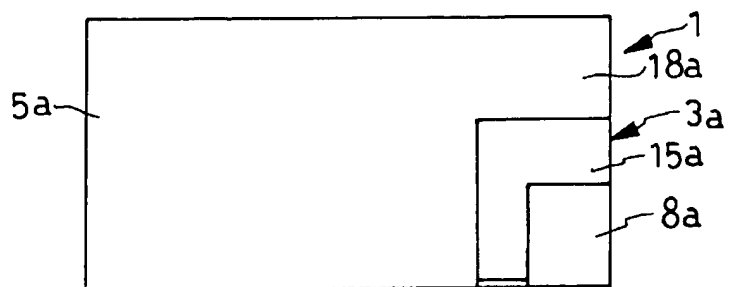


FIG. 6

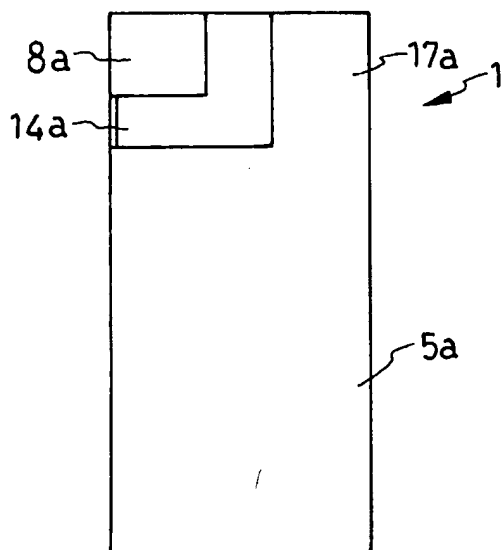


FIG. 7

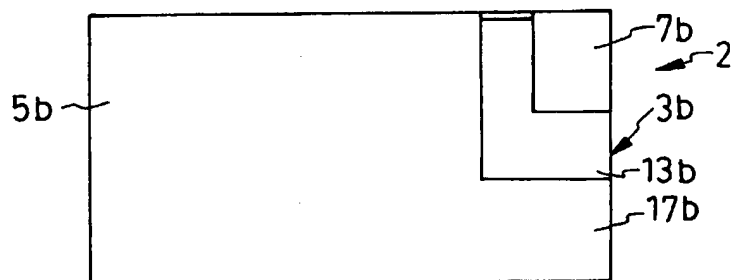


FIG. 8

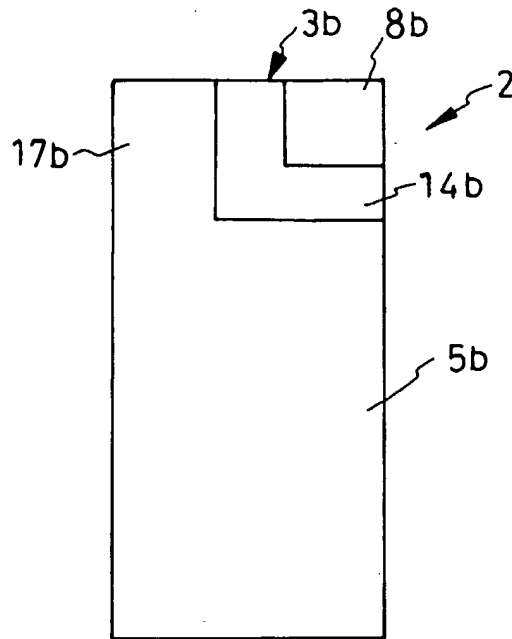


FIG. 9

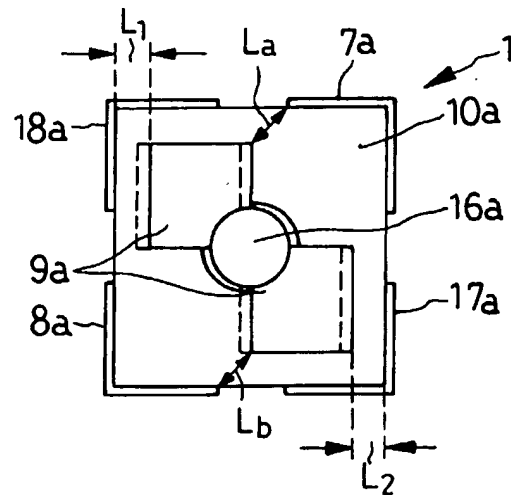


FIG. 10

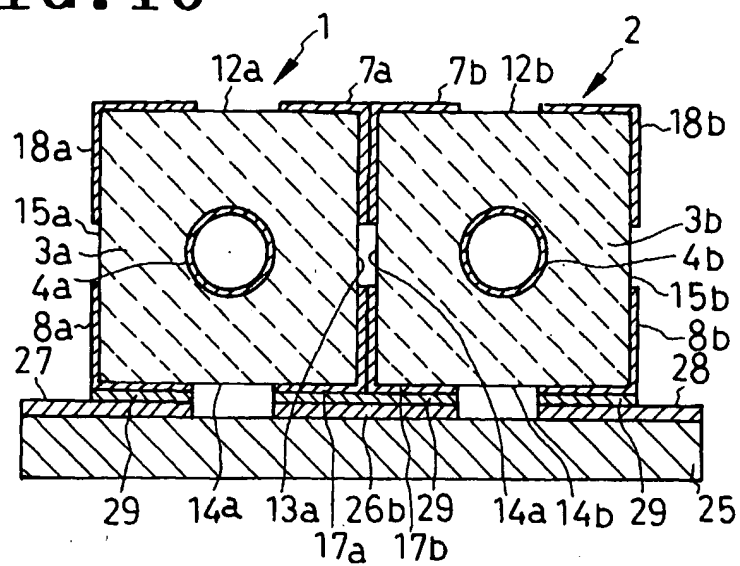


FIG. 11

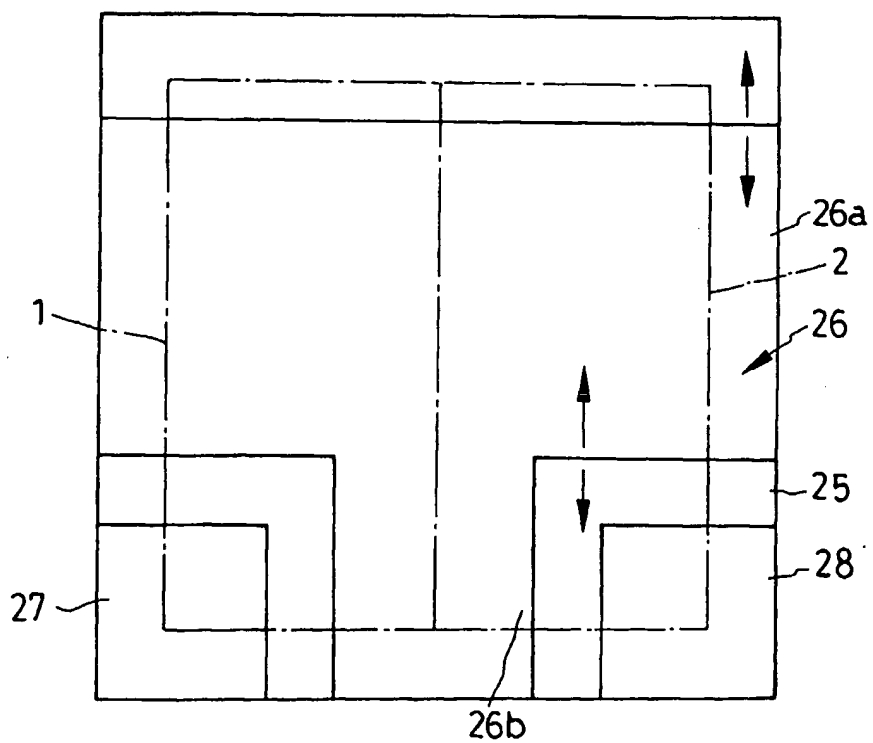


FIG. 12

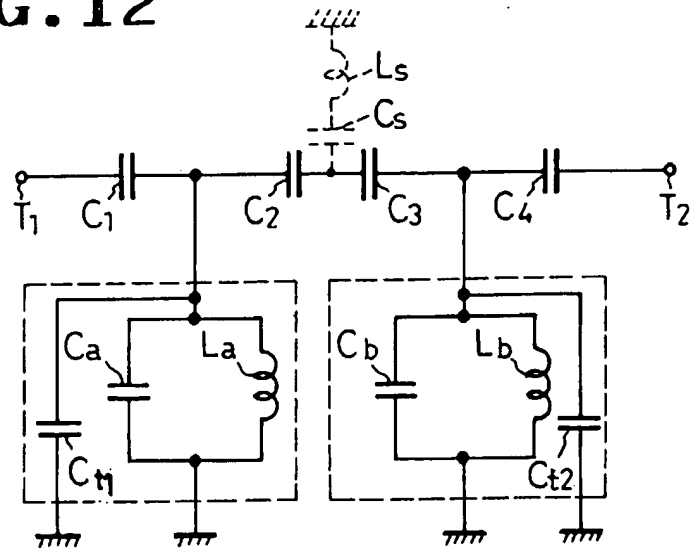


FIG. 13

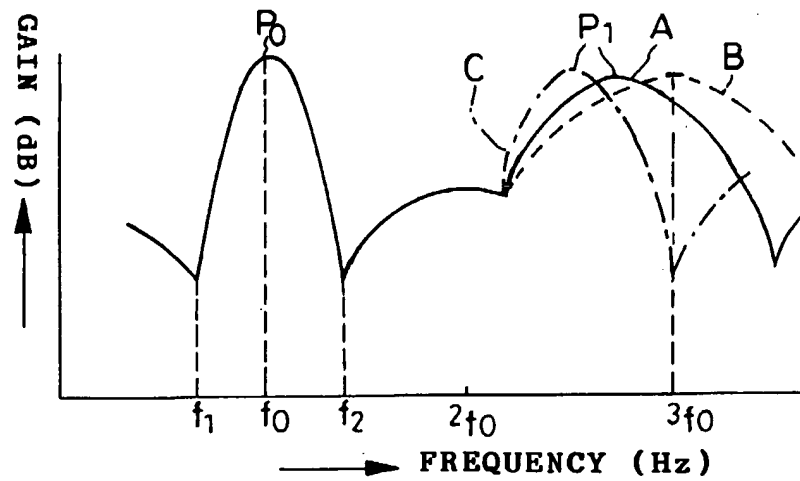


FIG. 14

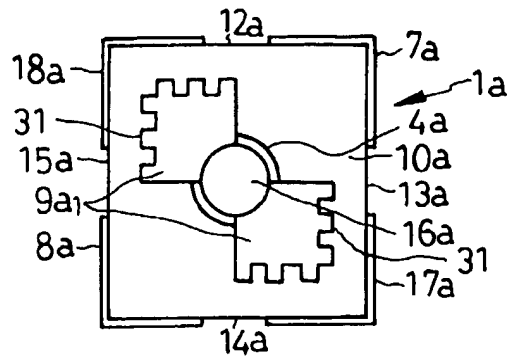


FIG. 15

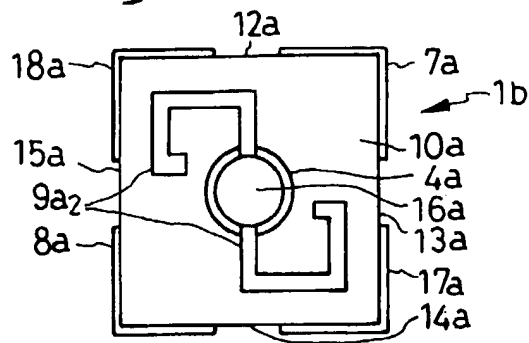


FIG. 16

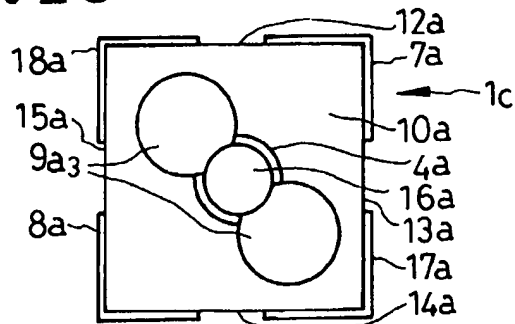


FIG. 17

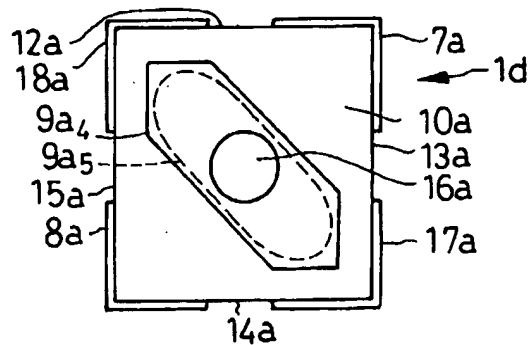


FIG. 18

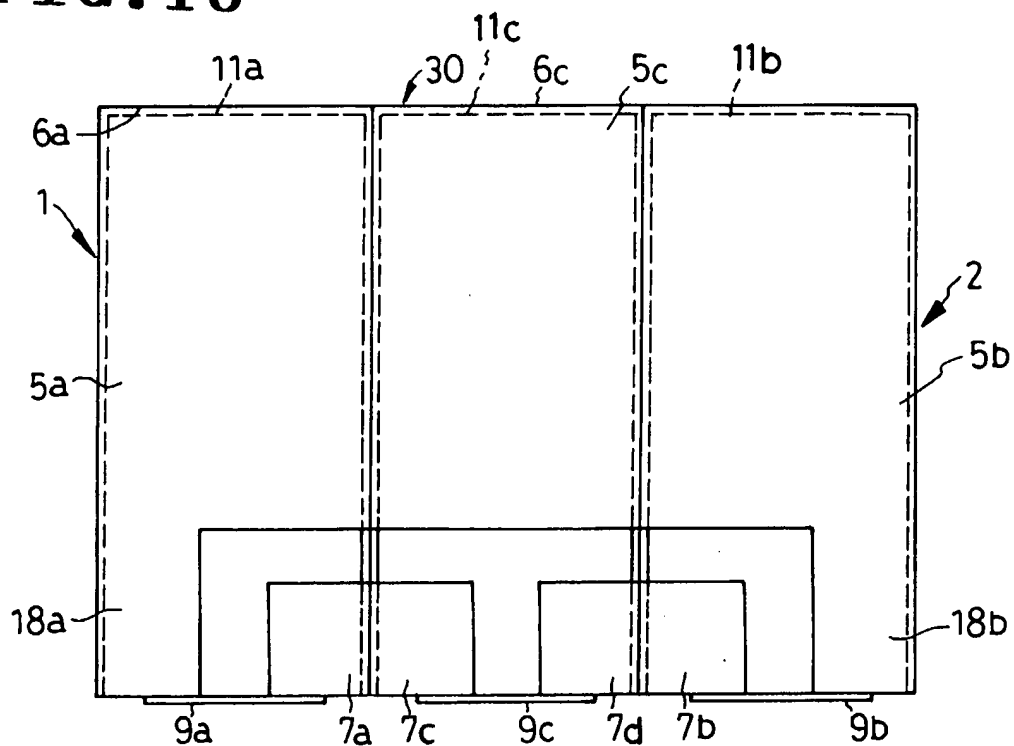


FIG. 19

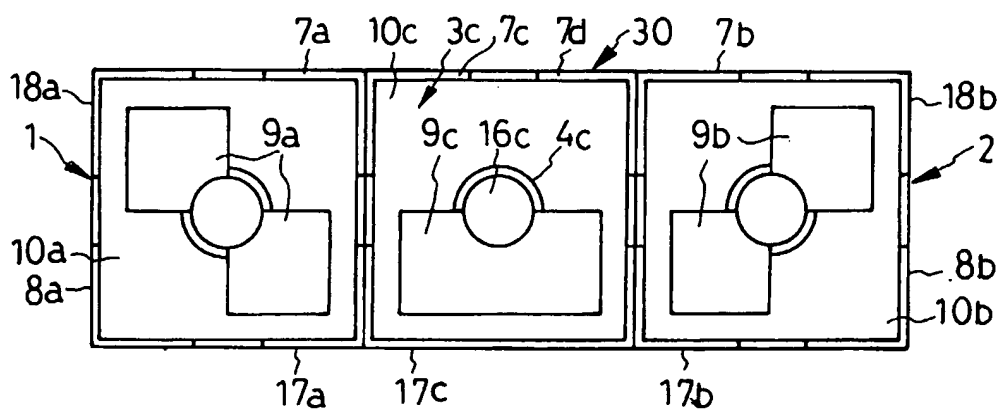


FIG. 20

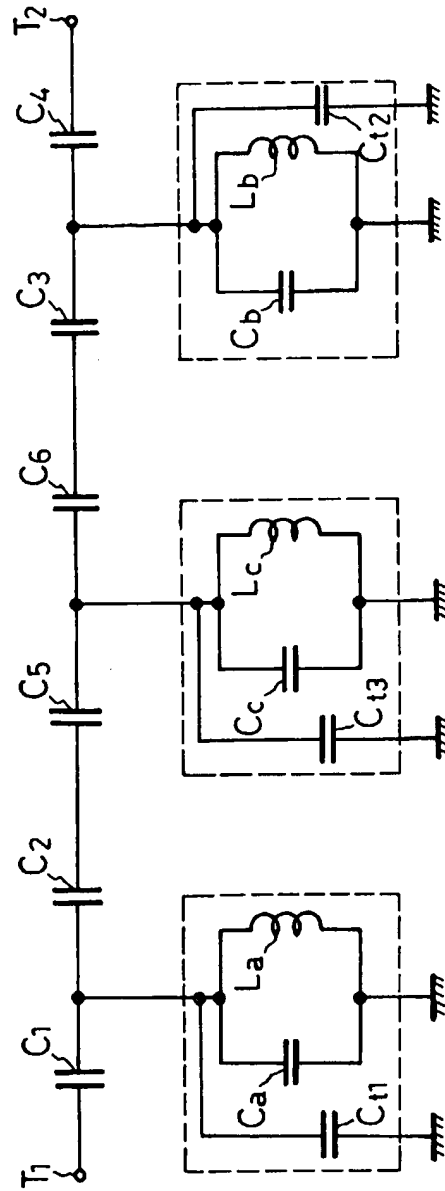


FIG. 21

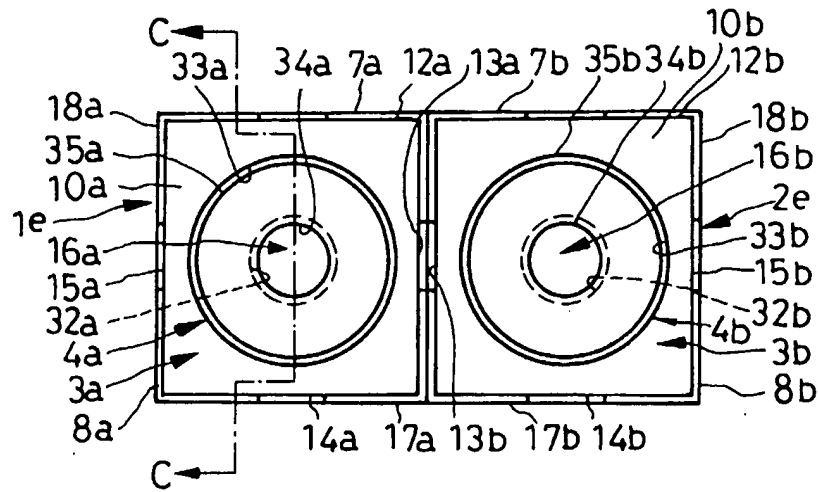


FIG. 22

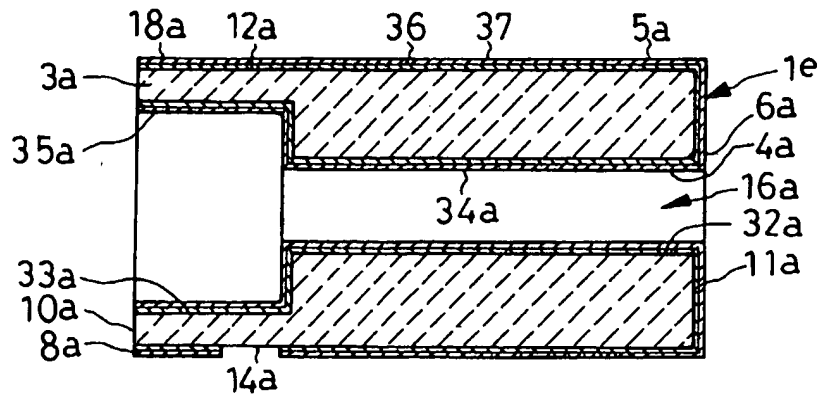


FIG. 23

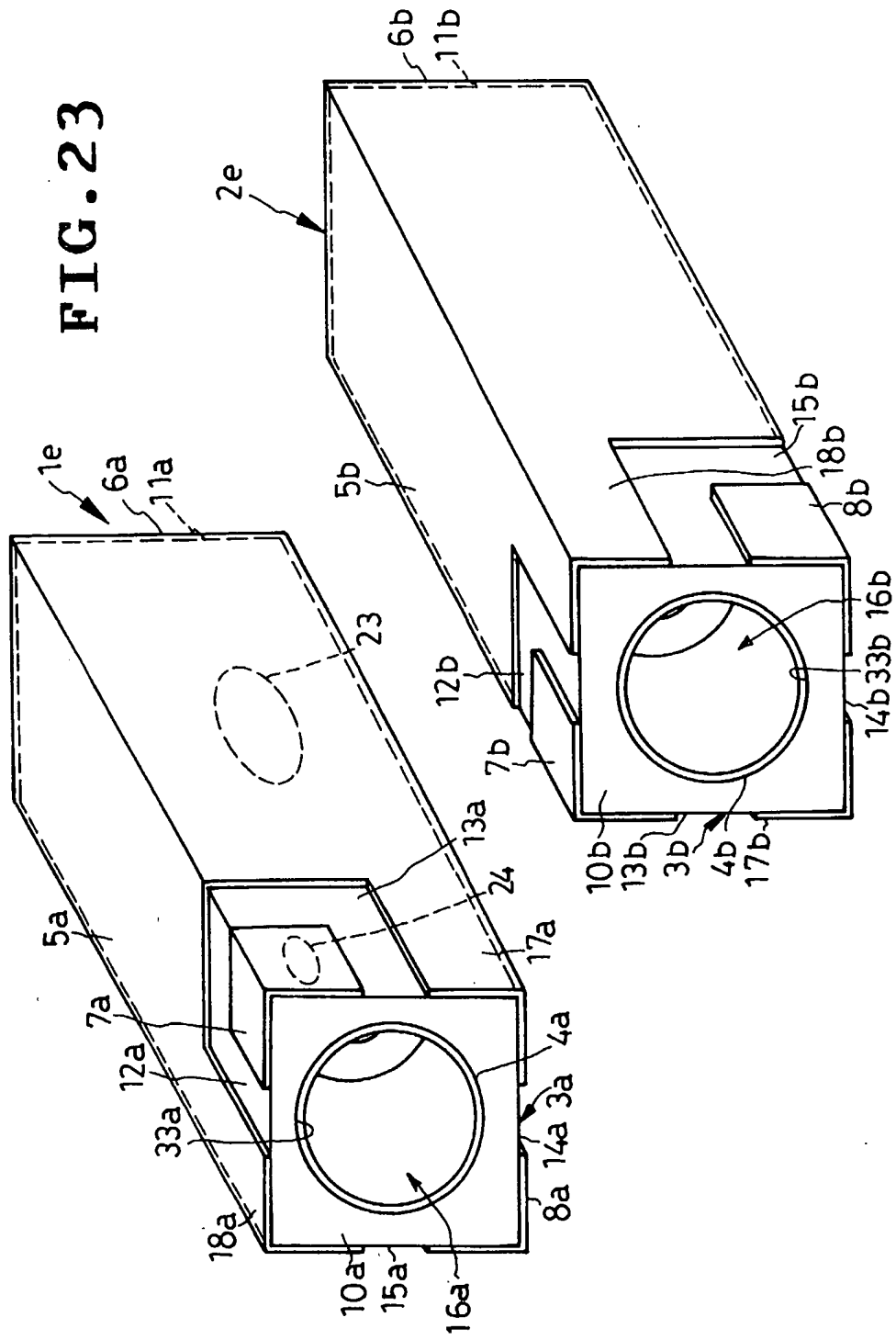


FIG. 24

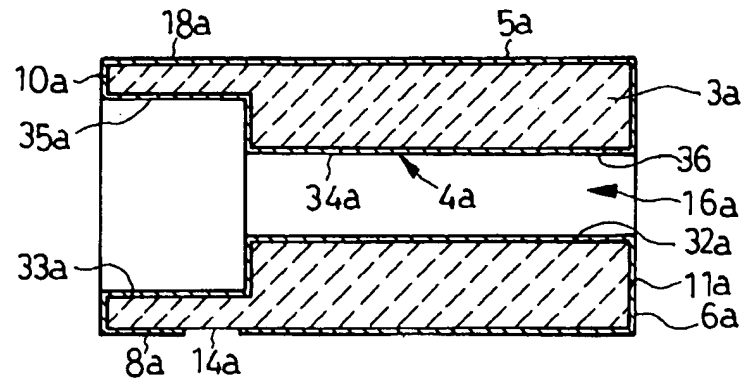


FIG. 25

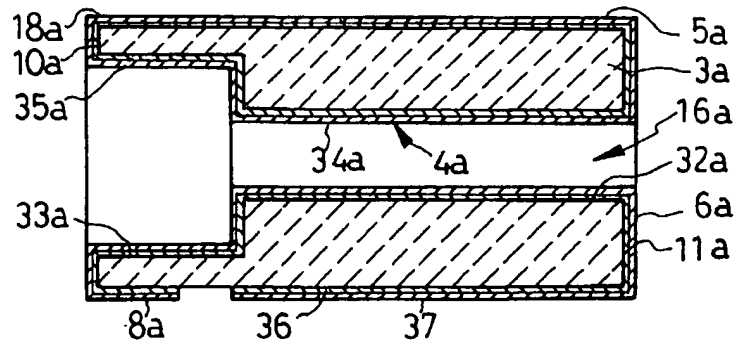


FIG. 26

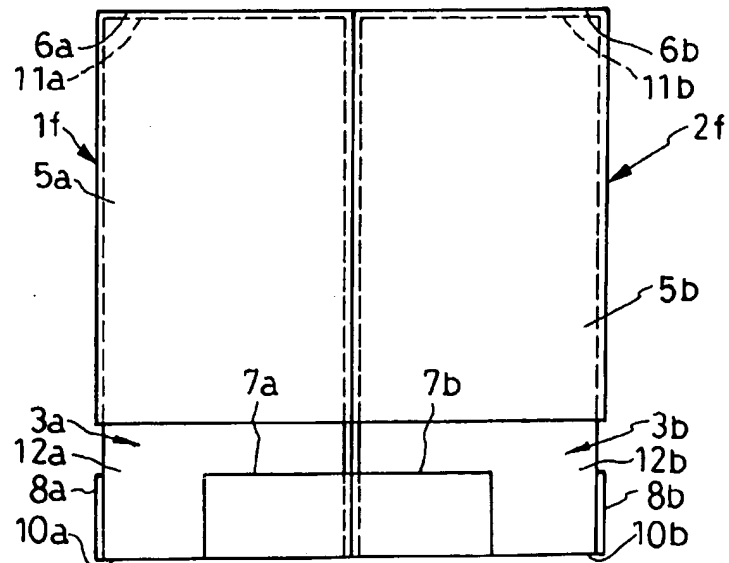


FIG. 27

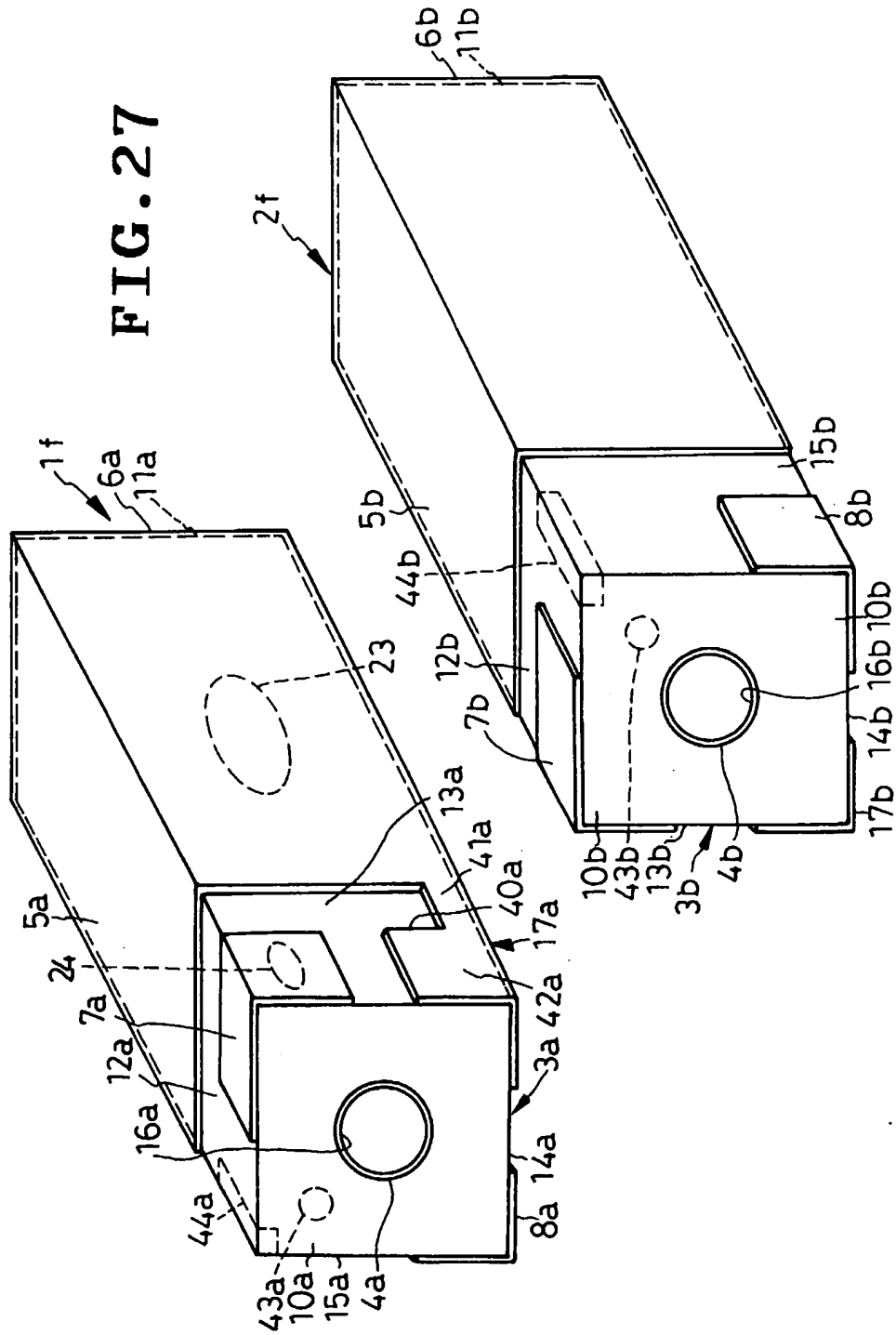


FIG. 28

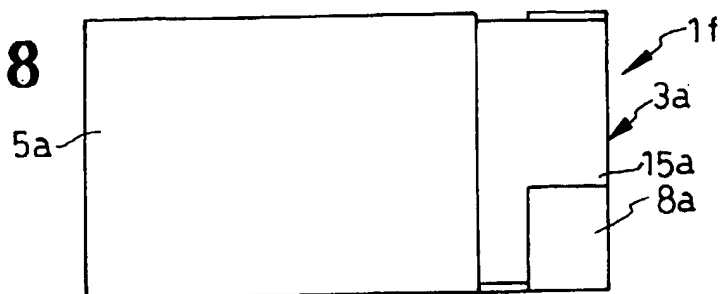


FIG. 29

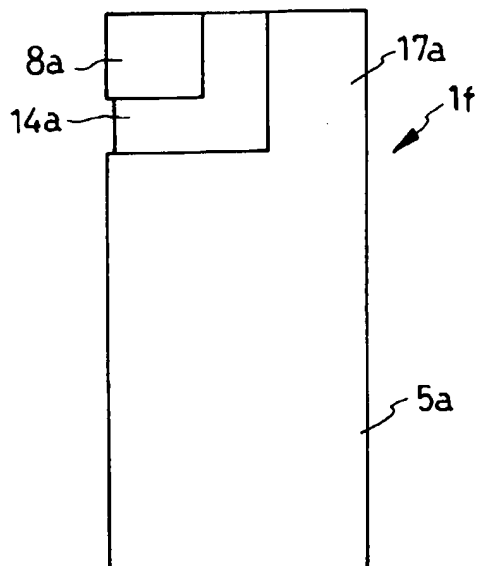
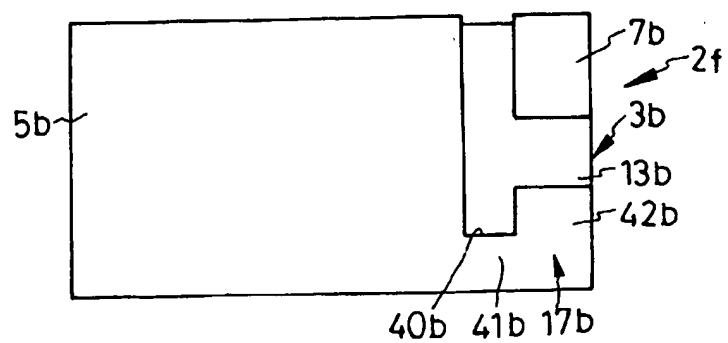


FIG. 30



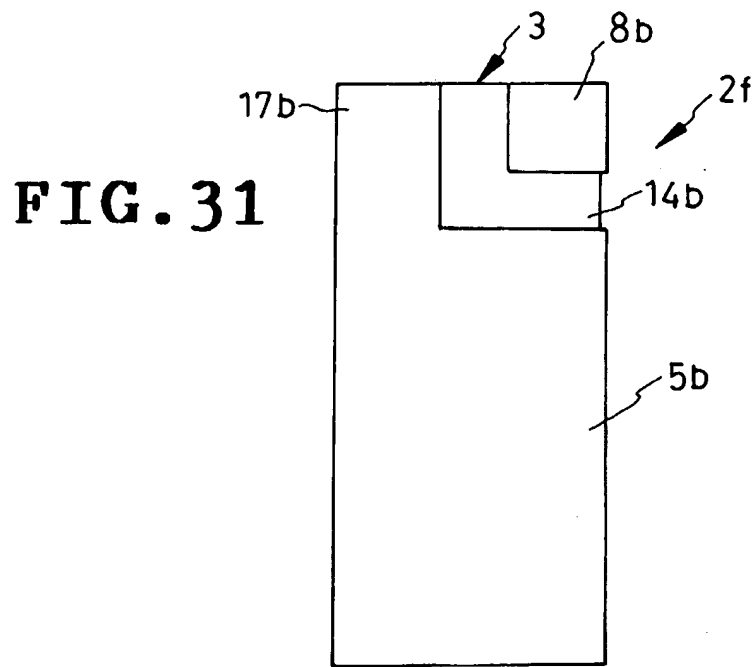


FIG. 32

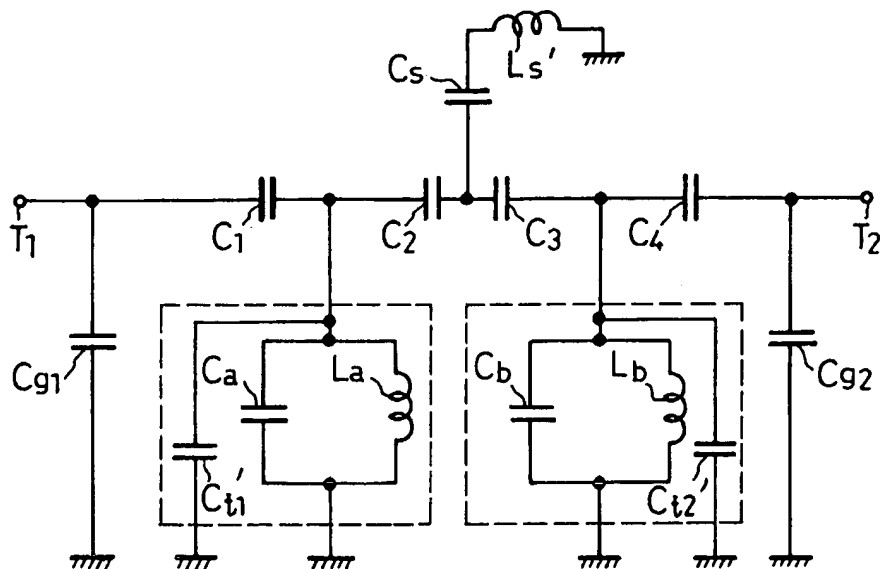


FIG. 33

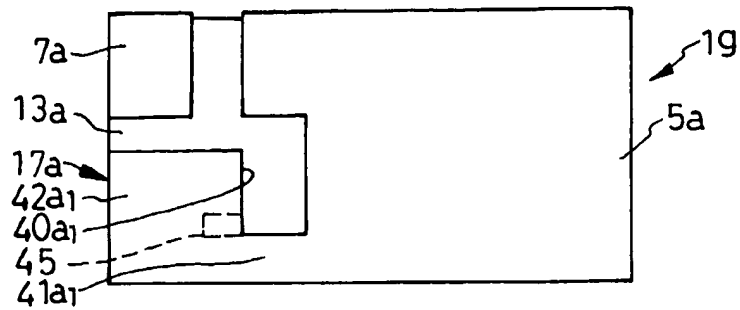


FIG. 34

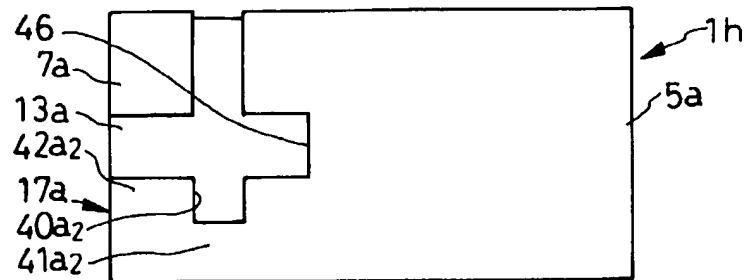


FIG. 35

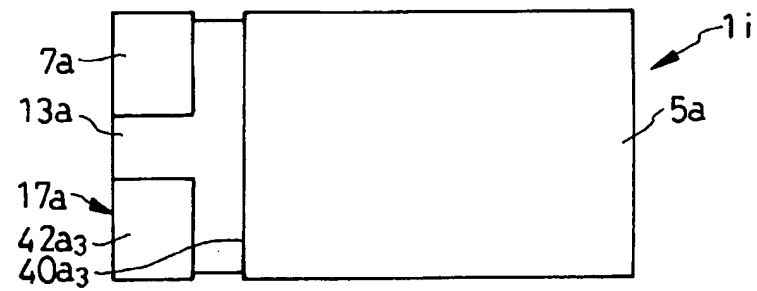


FIG. 36

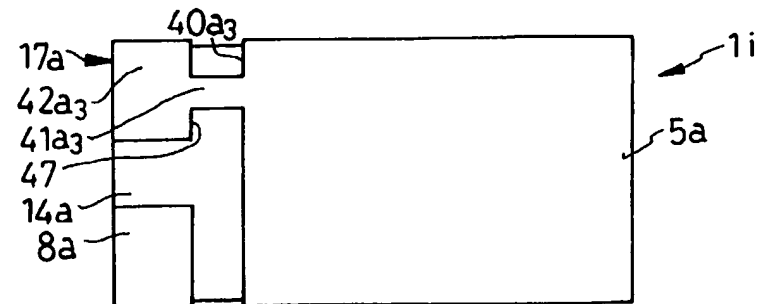


FIG. 37

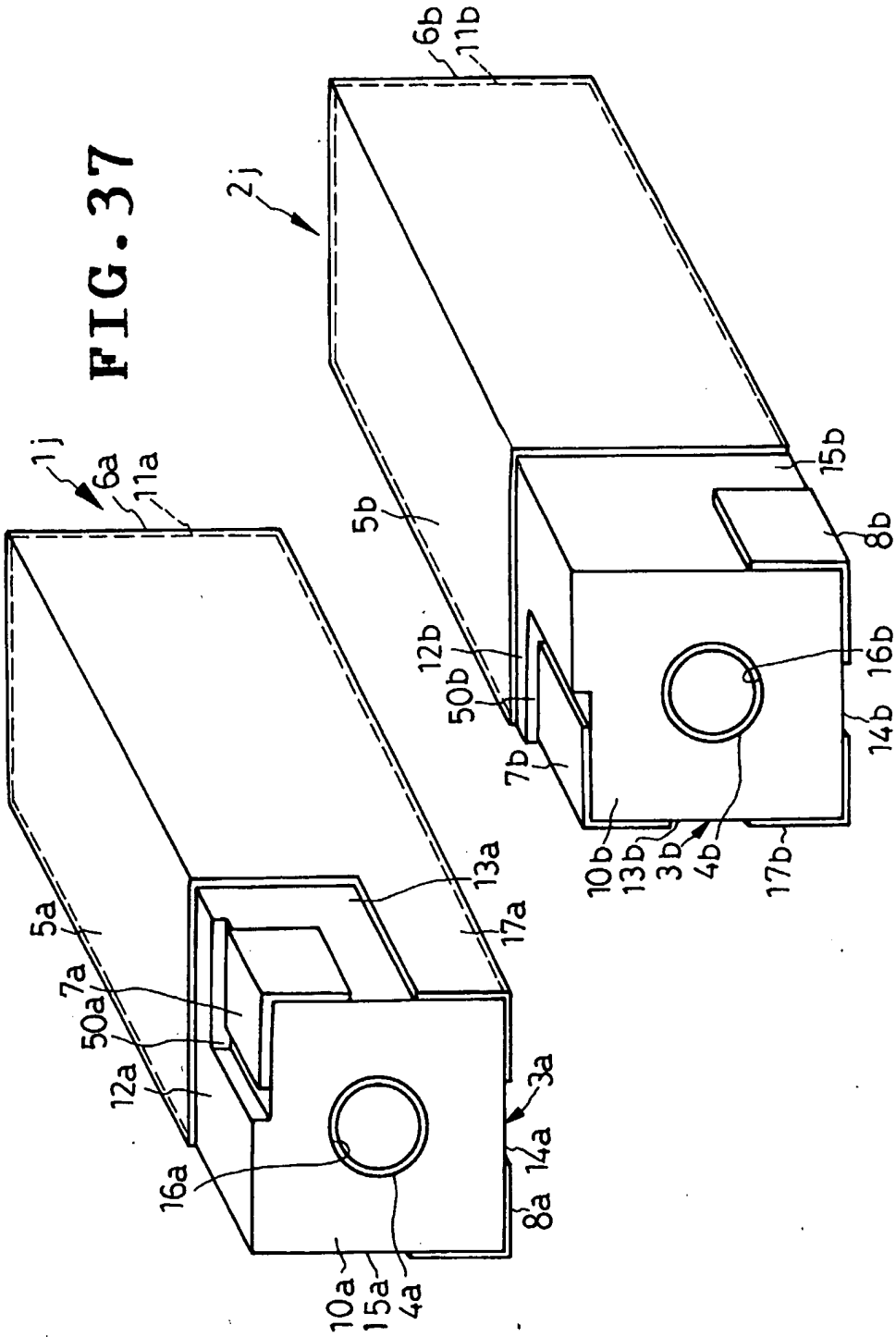


FIG. 38

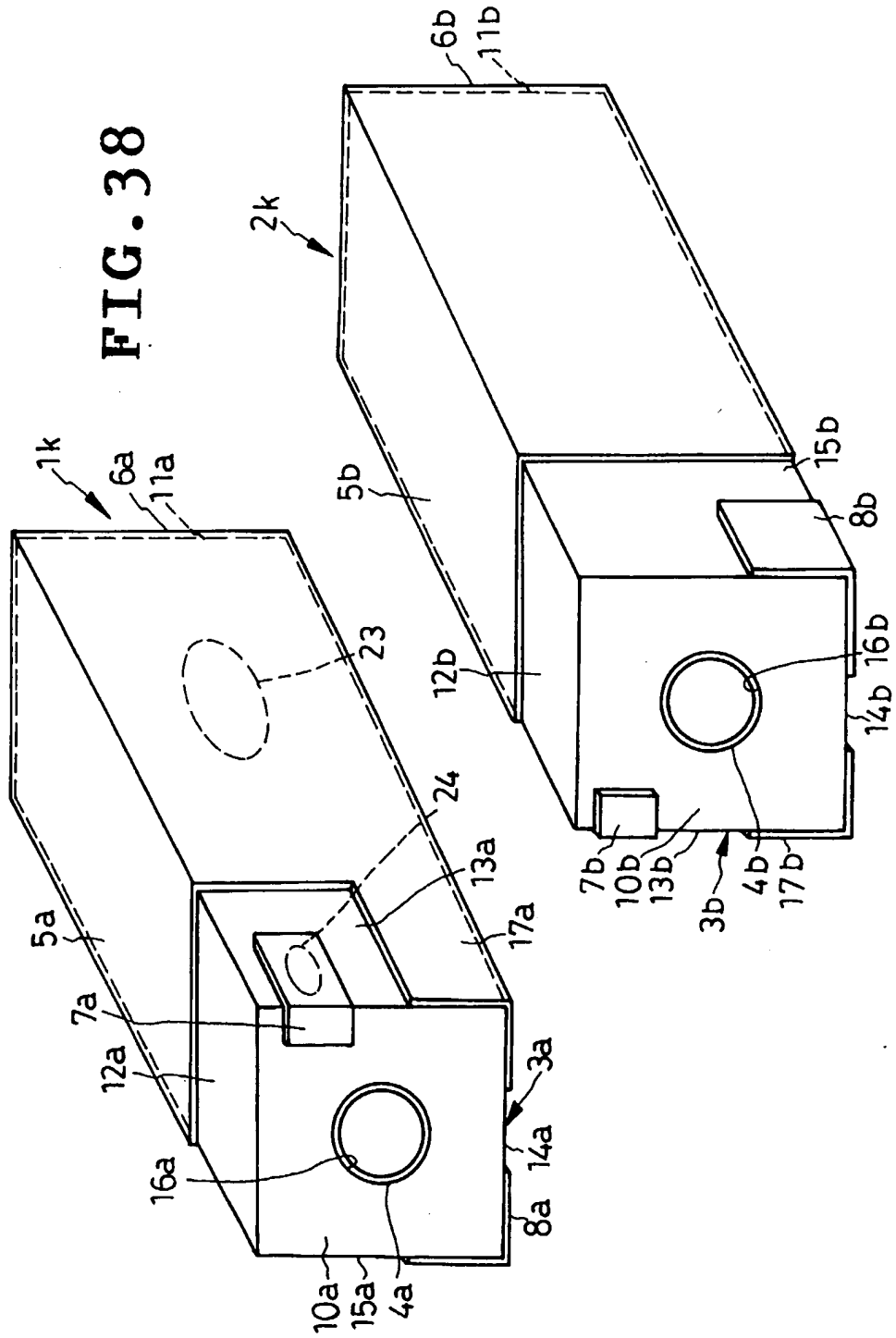


FIG. 39

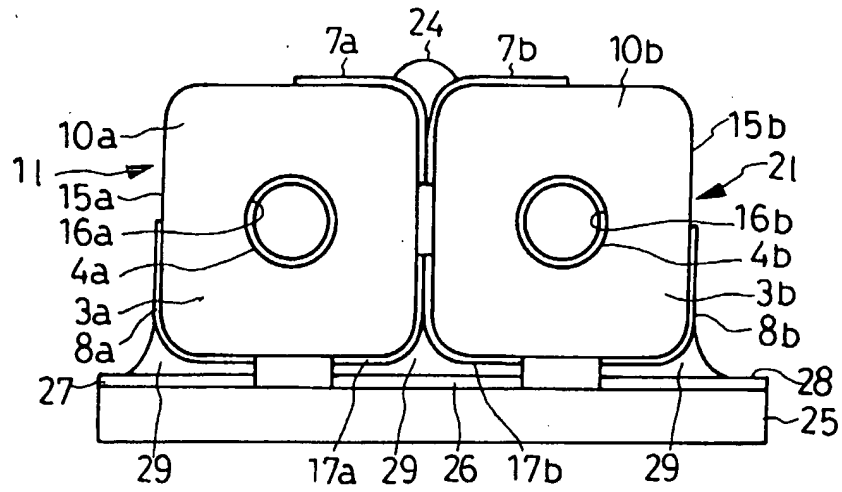


FIG. 43

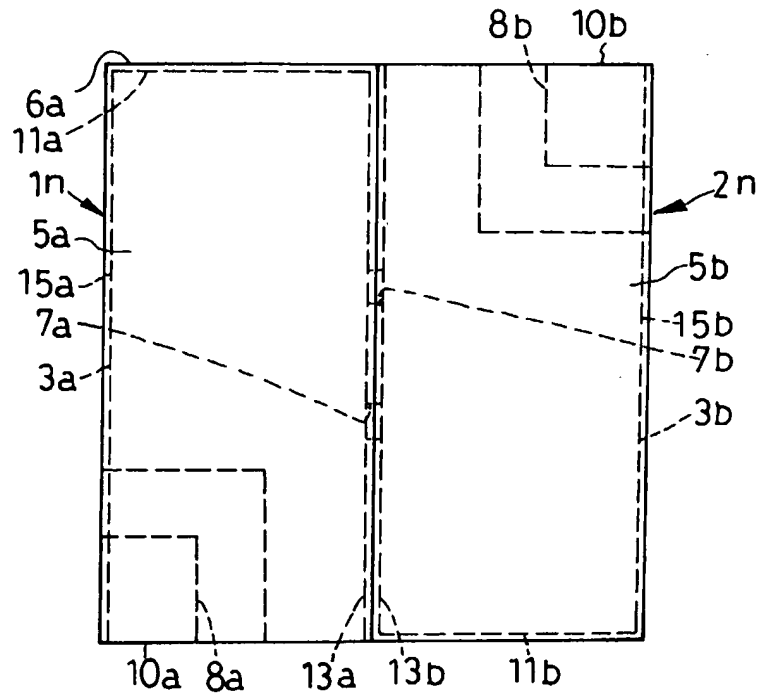


FIG. 40

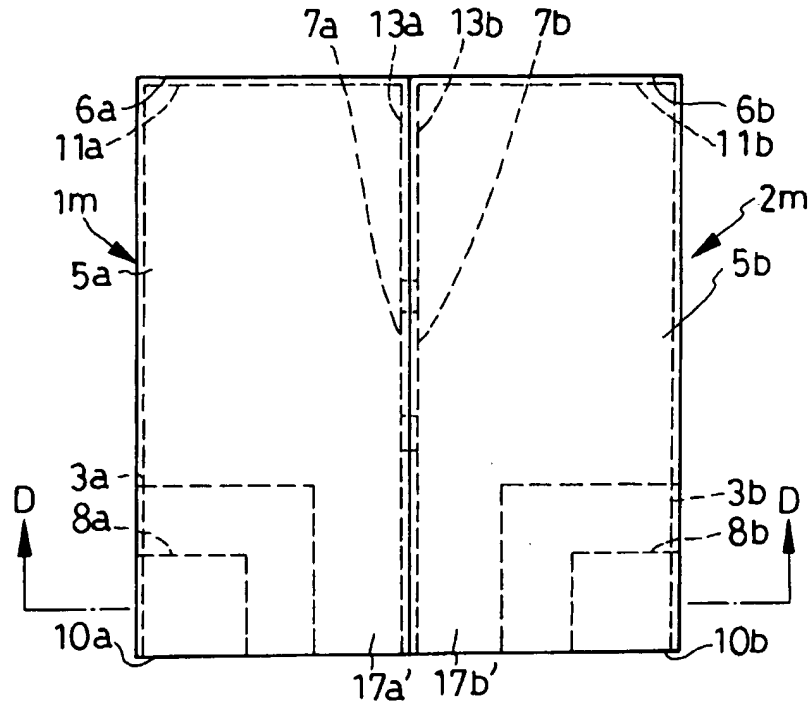
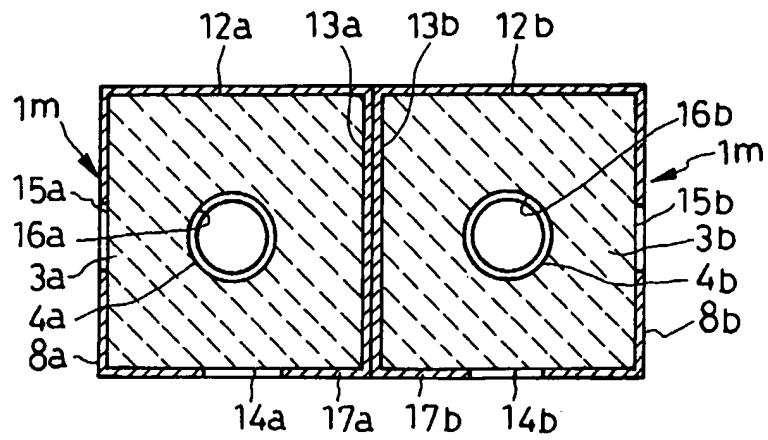


FIG. 41



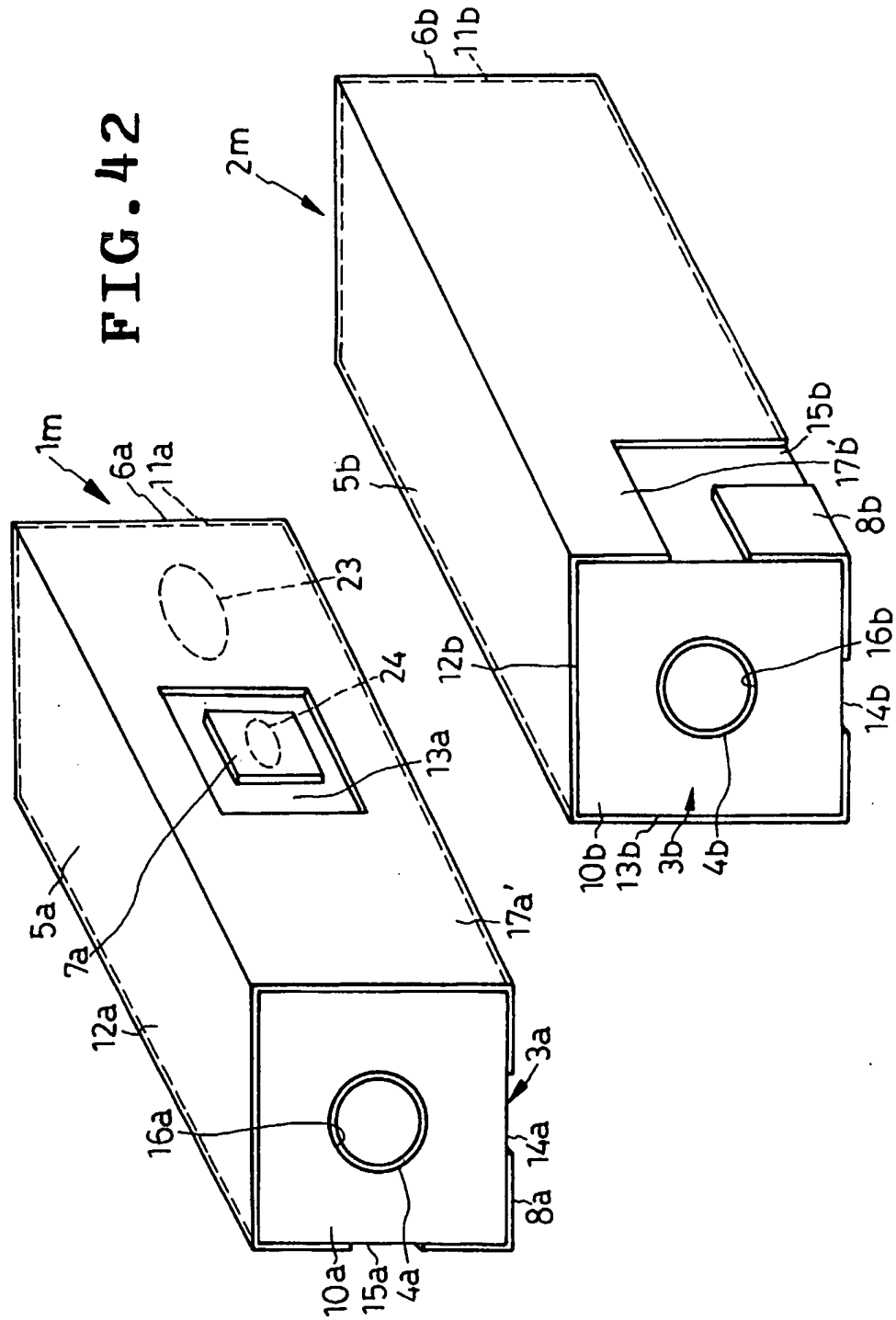


FIG. 44

